the latest ISSUE

volume two
issue ten

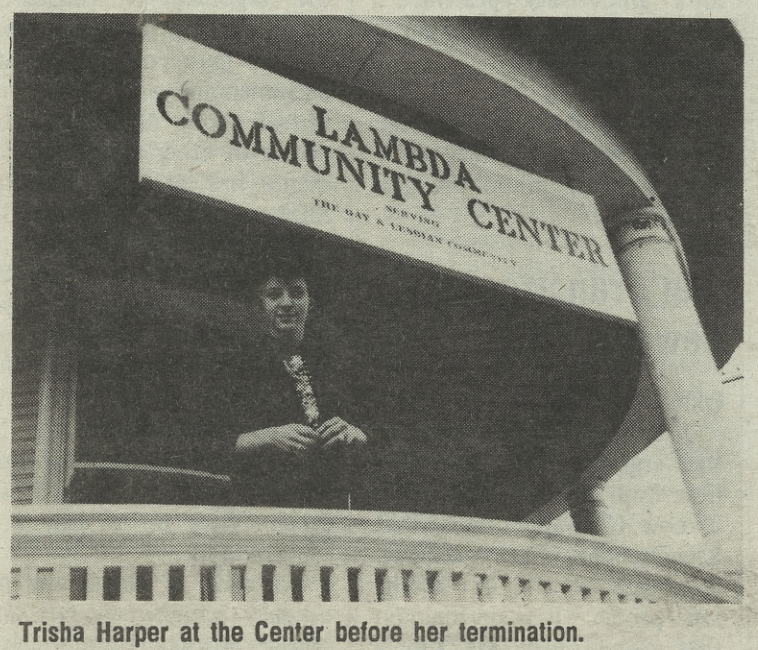
FREE

mid-february
ninety-one

They're Here!
Ethan Green and Dykes to Watch out For.
Pages 10 and 12

SACRAMENTO'S NEWS MAGAZINE FOR THE GAY COMMUNITY AND ITS FRIENDS

Lambda Center Firing Raises Questions



Kate Moore

Trisha Harper at the Center before her termination.

by **Stacy Selmants**

On January 16th, near the end of her probationary period, Trisha Harper was notified that she would not be retained as the Executive Director of the Lambda Center. Harper, who feels she was unjustly terminated, has mounted a campaign to alert the gay/lesbian community to the perceived wrongful termination.

In a series of lengthy interviews, Harper has maintained that she was given no warning that her employment would be terminated and expresses bewilderment over the reasons for her dismissal. According to her, she was given only oblique reasons for her termination, but was offered a letter of recommendation from her supervisor, board member Jerry Sloan.

"When I asked Jerry why, he said it was because 'We don't have the relationship we want to have with our Executive Director. The magic just isn't there,'" Harper explained.

Board member Marghe Covino, while stressing that the reasons for Harper's dismissal are privileged information, expressed disbelief at Harper's assertion that she still does not understand why she was fired. "She (Harper) has indicated 'I didn't know; I don't know why,' which surprises me. But any professional would not be surprised to be terminated by a board. And she has shown a total lack of professionalism since then. On more than one occasion I tried to tell her that there was real trouble in River City."

The same evening that Harper was released from her position as executive director, Board member Bil Gingrich was voted out of his position on the board. The structure of the Center is one of a "self-perpetuating" board, which means that board members decide who is on the board. "They don't like someone who will question their motives" said Gingrich. "I see a great potential for the Center, but that potential is going to be limited by the existing board."

Continued on page 10

Gay and Lesbian Outreach

Sacramento's only locally produced gay and lesbian television show is airing a special report on the controversies surrounding the Lambda Community Fund.

This report will include in-depth interviews with former LCF board members and Trisha Harper, the former executive director. This report will be shown on Sacramento Cable Channel 47, on Thursday, February 21, at 8 p.m., and will repeat on Friday, February 22 at 3 p.m. and Saturday, February 23 at 10 a.m.

Change in Policy ?

Gay Discharges

by **Keith Clark**

Donna Lynn Jackson drew national attention when she publicly informed her commanding officer of her sexual orientation and asked to be sent to the Persian Gulf with her army reserve unit.

According to her attorney, Mary Newcombe of the Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund, Jackson was given an honorable discharge early this month and had decided not to challenge the Army's action in court.

Newcombe, and other gay rights attorneys, agreed, however, that over a dozen similar cases have since come up all over the country. Newcombe and other activists are concerned that the Pentagon has taken an official stand barring open gays and lesbians from serving during the Persian

Continued on page 6

Opinion Poll: Welcome to War

by **Launa Cornwell**

Ever since the allies bombed Baghdad, the talk at work, in the bars and on the street has revolved around the strife in the Persian Gulf.

At Andiamo Restaurant over breakfast, the conversation turned to the war. "It's necessary when it affects the economy," said full-time student **Dave Aguirre**, 29. "When Hussein dumped the oil into the gulf, that was so childish. He should try negotiating."

Launa Cornwell

Larry Woodward.

"Bush did the right thing," he said. "If we threatened to go to war and didn't follow through, how could we expect other countries to take us seriously?"

Later, over a friendly video game, the topic was once again the war. "It was the responsibility of the U.S. to help this smaller country stay independent," insisted "Hair by Larr" salon owner **Larry Woodward**, 27. "I'm glad Bush stepped in when he did; otherwise, there would have been more and more turmoil. This way, Iraq can't gain a nuclear capability." At Greta's Cafe in midtown, the sentiment was different. "I think the war is terrible," said native Austrian **Walter Mullir**, 37. "The U.S. has no right to be over there. It's all right now because there's not a lot of casualties, but wait until

Continued on page 8

really !!! I MUST SAY!

Support AB 167

For a long time, the gay rights movement has been perceived as a movement that narcissistically celebrates promiscuity. But more recently, this perception has been changing. Like teenagers maturing into responsible adults, the gay community has grown up. Many of us are now ready to settle down, to make commitments, and to celebrate not just our sexuality, but our relationships. Assemblymember John Burton's AB 167 reflects this new growth.

Burton's bill would allow any two individuals to marry. Ultimately, we would be entitled to the same rights and obligations as "normal" married couples, such as spousal benefits, custody and inheritance rights, and, of course, divorce.

Unfortunately, various factions in our community are choosing to engage in destructive sibling rivalry, rather than forging a unified political front. Some of the "leaders" seem to feel possessive of the gay political agenda, and have lashed out against Burton's gay rights bill. They are upset because they were not consulted about it prior to its introduction, and because they disagree with the strategy of having more than one gay rights bill at a time.

They contend that AB 167 will bring down AB 101 (Terry Friedman's bill prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment and housing). But more likely, this bill will make AB 101 seem moderate, and will likely contribute to its passage. Clearly, support for traditional marriage among gays is not unanimous. Nevertheless, the justness or goodness of the institution is not at question here. The real issue is whether we are entitled to access the same laws available to our heterosexual counterparts. One woman said she is supporting Burton's bill because she doesn't buy into Lou Sheldon's definition of "family." We agree. This is an important bill for us. Please give it your utmost support.

the latest ISSUE staff

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Gay Veteran Pissed at Peace Protesters

Editor,

As a proud gay veteran I am infuriated with the actions of the San Francisco Gay Community in response to the Persian Gulf Crisis.

We should stand up as proud Americans and support the leaders we have elected.

The gay men and lesbians that are in the gulf region deserve our support and a hero's welcome when the war is over.

Don D.

Love The Paper Love The Man

Editor,

Last February I responded to a personal ad that was printed in your paper. After several weeks of correspondence through the mail, we decided to meet. It wasn't "love at first sight" for either of us, but our first meeting was quite romantic and a great beginning. We went for a picnic in the snow (the perfect way to get to know the man that you call friend), and talked for hours.

Joe and I are now approaching our one-year anniversary! But unfortunately neither one of us has a copy of the personal ad. My question is, Do you keep back copies of your paper? If you do, could you *please* send me a copy of Jo's ad. He stated he was accustomed to the Foothill lifestyle of the Jackson area and gave a Sutter Creek P.O. Box as his address. A photo copy could suffice. I would like to include the ad in Joe's anniversary present. . . He's never even seen the ad.

Thanks in advance.

D.R.

P.S. Your paper is a great way to keep in touch with what is going on in the gay community!!

San Franciscans Beware

Editor,

I do not buy for a moment the arguments I constantly hear from the few gay people I know here and others, that Sacramentans are celibate, monogamous and or 'family' type people. It is my opinion that people here are simply more cliquish or 'closet' cases when it comes to dealing with sexuality.

I believe that the major contributor to this problem here is peer pressure. It does appear to me that peer pressure has created a state of siege or malaise in the Sacramento area worse than anywhere I have ever lived.

How and why in the world has peer pressure become such a major problem here? I graduated from this petty type of peer pressure problem long ago.

I do not buy for a moment the argument I constantly hear from the few gay people I know here and others that Sacramentans are more concerned about AIDS than the people of other cities. Sacramento has as many cases of AIDS as most other cities of its size and population.

The numerous young male hustlers who work the gay bars and other areas here are faring exceptionally well for customers. I see numerous young male hustlers and female prostitutes riding and working the light rail and bus system here on a daily and nightly basis.

In view of the prevailing sexually uptight, cliquish and 'closet' attitude, I am shocked and surprised that the Sacramento area does not have the highest rates of rape and molestation in all categories of anywhere in the nation.

Because of the prevailing sexually uptight, cliquish and 'closet' attitude in the Sacramento area, I plan to move to San Francisco real soon.

Sincerely,
David Raffield

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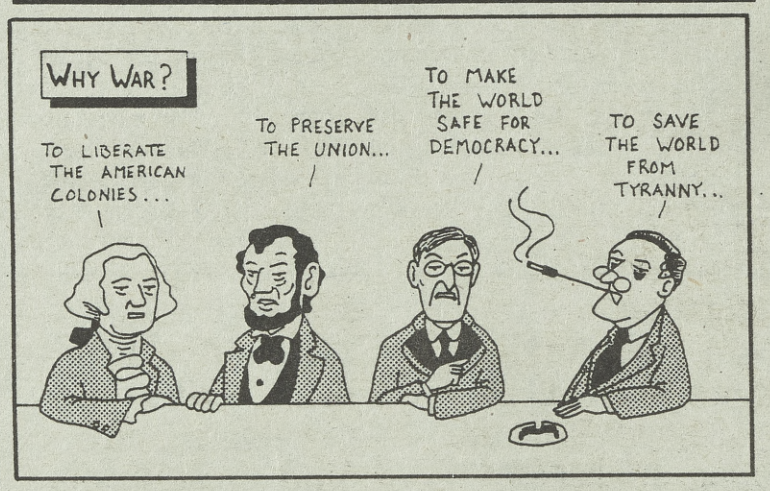
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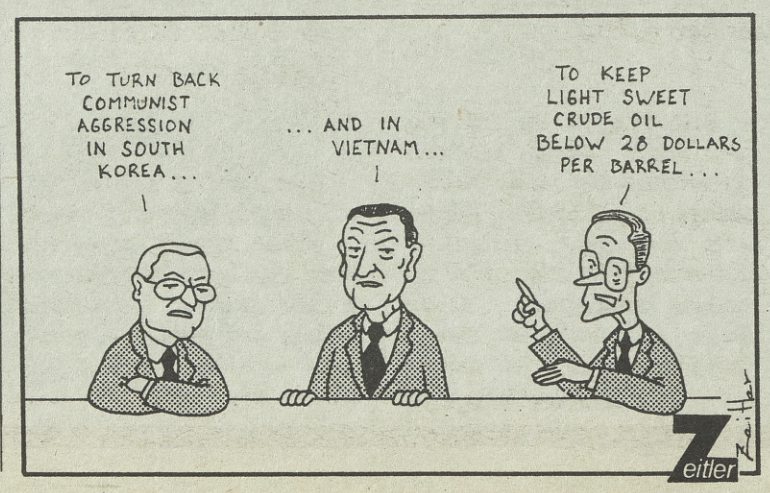
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... AND IN VIETNAM...
TO KEEP LIGHT SWEET CRUDE OIL BELOW 28 DOLLARS PER BARREL...
Zeitler

LETTERS!

The latest ISSUE welcomes letters on any subject. Be sure to include your name and phone number for verification. We will not print your name if you wish to remain anonymous.

DEADLINES

The editorial deadline for our next issue is March 1st. Camera-ready advertising materials are due by March 5th.

New Democratic Club Leaders Promote Change

by **Kate Moore**

Judy Ludwick and Lou Camera were elected the new Co-chairpersons of the River City Democratic Club on January 23. In an interview with *the latest ISSUE,* Ludwick and Camera revealed their vision for the future of the club.

"We hope to increase visibility of the lesbian and gay community and help people believe that they can make a difference by working with this club" said Camera. Ludwick added that "Increasing the participation of women and minorities is another one of our primary goals for the next two years."

The "Co-Chair" position and new two year length of term for the office holders are recent changes in the club's structure. According to Ludwick, "the new two year term is to add stability" to the organization in an effort to "achieve the long term goals of the club." In response to the new Co-Chair system - Camera commented that the club is striving to be "inclusive of women and minorities."

One issue that is on the agenda of many other lesbian and gay Democratic clubs is the Persian Gulf War. The Alice B. Toklas and Harvey Milk Democratic Clubs of San Francisco have led the way to protests in the city. When asked how they would recommend the Sacramento community proceed, Ludwick and Camera are in agreement of the Goals for the Democratic Club yet are hesitant on moving forward on their ideas "until the Executive committee can convene and take a stand on the major issues of the day."

Kate Moore

Lou Camera and Judy Ludwick are the new Co-chairs of the River City Democratic Club.

When asked what Ludwick and Camera saw as past President Karl Green's major contributions to the club in 1990, they replied "Karl restructured the organization and brought in women to a nearly all male club." said Ludwick, "He brought leaders like Jerry Brown and Kim Mueller in as a way to increase participation." Camera added "Our club registered a large number of voters during the Feinstein campaign, (under the direction of Ed Condon and Greene) and our speakers' bureau has grown and is making presentations to the Sacramento Sherrifs department."

Leadership skills are of the utmost importance when taking over one of the largest and most organized clubs in Sacramento. Ludwick and Camera see their skills as being similar. "I am a coalition builder" said Camera, "I bring resources and people together and support them in being successful." Ludwick felt that her strong points are that "I am a good listener, and I feel that my communication skills are my strongest asset."

To find out more about the River City Democratic Club and these two dynamic leaders, attend the meeting on February 19, at the Lambda Community Center at 6:30 p.m. The featured speaker for the meeting is LIFE Lobby's Laurie McBride.

Queer Nation Charges Police With Brutality

by **Keith Clark**

Activists involved in a protest during the inauguration ceremonies of Gov. Pete Wilson, Jan. 7, along with four members of the San Francisco's Board of Supervisors are calling for an investigation of alleged brutality by the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department.

At a press conference here Thursday, Jan. 10, members of Queer Nation were joined by the supervisors who will be introducing a resolution calling for a formal investigation of the activists' charges. The group also said state Assemblyman John Burton of San Francisco had agreed to help.

According to the activists, five Queer Nation members were physically and verbally abused by sheriff's officers after they were arrested for disrupting last Monday's inaugural ceremonies. Derek Boyle said he was shoved face-first against a jail wall by

Continued on page 20

Volunteers Make Letters Matter

The Lambda Letters Project is proud to announce announce that it delivered over 4,000 letters on women's rights, lesbian and gay rights, and AIDS to legislators and other public officials during 1990.

The Lambda Letters Project recently presented awards to public officials who have made significant contributions to the welfare of women, lesbians and gays, and people living with AIDS, and to volunteers who provide extraordinary service to the Lambda Letters Project.

The officials enrolled as members of the 1990 Lambda Letters Honor Roll are as follows: Senator Alan Cranston, Congressmember Robert Matsui, and Mayor Anne Rudin.

The volunteers recognized were **Mike Moffet** and **Jim Distefano,** for collecting ten percent of all the letters collected.

Karen Roth, for governing the Project, composing each month's letter and tip sheet on women's rights, and helping to gather letters at public events.

Joe Heller, for governing the Project, composing each month's letter and tip sheet on AIDS, and helping to gather letters at public events.

Kim Stoddard and **Denise Canals,** for coordinating the mailing of over 2,000 letters for the Project, and spearheading our fall fundraiser, and representing the Project at the Town Council.

Larry Beaty, for the wide variety of services he provided including governing the Project, letter stuffing, collecting letters at public events, and participating in fund raising activities.

Linda Killick, for managing the books for the Project, paying its bills, and providing valuable information needed to manage the resources of the Project.

To be an active participant in the Lambda Letters Project call Boyce Hinman at 965-6851 (or write to Lambda Letters Project, 6212 Silverton Way, Carmichael, CA 95608) for a list of volunteer positions available.

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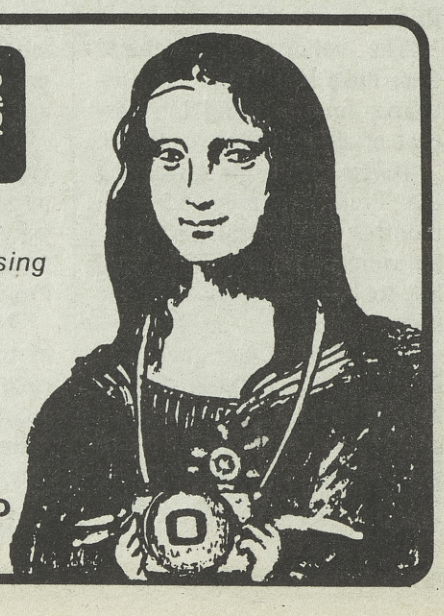

2919 K St.
SUTTER SQUARE GALLERIA
(916)444-SNAP

Active and Playing in the Foothills

by **Sue Dolf**

If The Shoe Fits (ITSF), was formed during the summer of 1988 as a way to bring together lesbians and gays in El Dorado County, and has been growing ever since.

This organization, which began with 10-12 women, has now expanded to include 140 addresses (singles and couples) on its mailing list for its monthly newsletter. The newsletter carries articles written by local members on issues of concern to the lesbian/gay community, as well as advertisements for local "community" businesses.

The purpose of ITSF is a social network, sponsoring three annual dances, monthly potlucks and various activities. There are several special interest groups, such as a book club, a lesbian support group, a billiards group, cross-country skiing and a volleyball team.

The purpose of ITSF is a social network

Summer activities have included camping, canoeing, geologist-led hiking adventures, wildflower walks, and our softball team, the "Shoe-Ins."

The most recent event held by ITSF was the Second Annual New Year's dance attended by more than 100 women and men from El Dorado County, the Sacramento area, and as far away as Stockton. A live band, "Second Wind," brought in from Los Angeles, kept the dance floor packed all night. ITSF also hosts an annual May Day Gay Dance with Gail Smith performing, and a Halloween dance with ITSF's own DJ.

The activities offered for ITSF are as varied as those who participate and contribute. Anyone in the community can propose, plan and produce any kind of social event. We know we are not reaching all the lesbians and gays in El Dorado County, and would like to encourage anyone who is interested in joining ITSF to call 622-8690, or write to ITSF, P.O. Box 2215, Placerville, CA 95667.

Moment of Touch

COMING SOON

SIGHT

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SOUND

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443-4011

LETTERS

continued from page 2

Leather Or Not

Editor,

I was disappointed to read Jo Tierney's letter. It was very self-serving, hypocritical, and unfactual (sic). It becomes immediately obvious that she is, in fact, the source of the politics she dislikes in the Sacramento Leather Association.

First, Jo Tierney and Chuck Novak are *not* the founders of the SLA. There were over 20 people at our first meeting and a number of us helped to set up that meeting. Her claim is absurd and arrogant.

Second, neither Jo nor Chuck have been active in the SLA since the club was five months old. Our records show this is Jo's second resignation from the SLA -- not the record of someone who claims to be interested in the SLA and its community goals.

Third, Jo placed demands in her postscript. The SLA is a democracy -- something Jo has never understood. If Jo has requests of the SLA, she should remain a member and attend regularly scheduled meetings. Her demands are hypocritical and pompous.

I must say I am glad Jo is leaving; it will make everyone's life much smoother.

Earl Grist
SLA member

Letters Making a Difference

Editor,

The praise that Senator Cranston offers to Lambda Letters really belongs to the many people who have written to him and other legislators.

I thought you might want to publish his letter as evidence of the value of writing to our elected officials.

Yours truly,
Boyce Hinman

The following is the letter written by Senator Cranston;

Dear Boyce,

I am deeply honored by the award from the Lambda Letters Project for my work on behalf of the lesbian and gay community. Freedom and justice for all humanity can only be achieved when citizens take positive steps to assure their rights and when leaders of government respond.

The Lambda Letters Project meets the crucial test of citizen involvement. Through your efforts, those of us in public office know that lesbians and gay men everywhere support and encourage the efforts to end homophobia and discrimination.

This recognition means a great deal to me.

Sincerely,
Alan Cranston

NEWSBITS-NEWSBITS-NEWSBITS-NEWSBITS-NEWSBITS

California Budget Woes Hit AIDS

Newly elected Governor Pete Wilson unveiled a $55.7 billion budget with proposed cuts in health, welfare, and education programs to close a projected shortfall of $7 billion. The Governor's budget for specific AIDS and HIV-related line items is generally flat, with no increases to account for mounting AIDS case loads and new HIV infections. Not to mention already existing cases in the state. A $125,526,000 proposed budget for fiscal year 1991-92 compares with a current fiscal year budget of $128,228,000. The bulk of the reduction represents the expiration of two one-time grants for AIDS vaccine and drug development.

Speakers Training Scheduled

The Sacramento Gay Speakers' Bureau is seekings new, interested members of the gay and lesbian community to participate in training sessions. The Bureau, jointly sponsored by the Lambda Community Center and River City Democratic Club, will be conducting the training, beginning February 26, at 6:30 pm, to acquaint new members with the goals of the Bureau and to provide education and hands-on training in public speaking. "Behind-the-scenes" positions, relating to scheduling speaking engagements, are also available. Training sessions will be held at the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street. For more information, call Marghe at 371-3848.

Health Insurance for AIDS Patients

Effective February 1, 1991, California residents can buy health insurance regardless of health status (no one is too sick to apply) and regardless of past denial or cancellation from other insurance companies.

This program, the State of California Major Risk Medical Insurance Program, subsidizes insurance companies to provide health coverage to persons otherwise uninsurable due to chronic illness. Blue Cross, Blue Shield and Pacific Mutual have joined the Major Risk program and offer major risk insurance through "preferred provider" plans.

While $30 million is available from tobacco taxes (Prop. 99), this will provide coverage for only 10,000 people. According to one estimate, 25 times that many Californians are now uninsured due to health status.

Applications for Major Risk Medical Insurance are being accepted and coverage should begin on some policies as of March 1. Don't delay! This program could be closed in just a few weeks if the response is what everyone is expecting.

Persons who may be interested can contact Franklin Kakies at the Lambda Community Center (916) 442-0185 for additional information, or request an application from:

MRMIP
744 P Street
Room 1077
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 324-4695.

Gay Softball

The 1991 Gay Softball Season will be starting in June, and it is time to start organizing this year's season. If you are interested in managing a team and/or want to play, call Paul at 638-5615 for details. Plans for the 1991 season must be made by April, so there is very little time to waste. This will be the 20th year as a gay sports team, and with your support, our community can enjoy 20 more fun years.

DEADLINES
The editorial deadline for our next issue is March 1st. Camera-ready advertising materials are due by March 5th.

What We Do For Love

by Stacy Selmants

Most of us who may be functioning, rational people in our daily lives will accommodate the most inconvenient, ill-mannered and yes, twisted and perverse whims of our respective Loved Ones.

The one universal quality that we humans possess is that we are all, at one time or another, Fools For Love.

As a social experiment, I took a random sample, and asked people to submit ideas relating to concessions and accommodations they have made for their love puppies. (Okay, I threatened to sing a "Feelings"/ "You Light Up My Life" medley unless they complied. But let's not quibble here about the voluntary nature of this.) And not surprisingly, most of the compromises related to in-laws or sex, (or sex WITH in-laws.) A condensed sampling:

True Stories

Kevin: "Well, there was the time his parents came to visit. They arrived in a Winnebago, parked in the driveway, and stayed three months."

Linda: "I didn't want to leave Sacramento. I didn't want to sell my house. So here I am in Orange County, where there is no weather. We call it 'Behind the Orange Curtain.'"

Sara: "I agreed to go on vacation with other people, and not just my lover. It was...a mixed experience. We never had any privacy, if you understand what I mean."

Peter: "I didn't want him to smoke in the house, but he did anyway, until one time he caught the couch on fire. They did, however, send over the MOST attractive firemen, complete with long hoses..."

Debbie: "Well, she used to ask me to dress up as a hooker, sometimes. It was out of character, but I think I'd do it again. Heh, heh, heh."

Celeste: "We lent his father $8,000 and then he declared bankruptcy. You can imagine how thrilled I was."

Scott: "Well, there was that

Continued on page 25

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Classes, Seminars, and Workshops for the lesbian, gay, and bisexual community

February Schedule

Self-Defense 101 Learn basic defense maneuvers from Midge Marino. With the continuing violence against our community - YOU can protect yourself. **February 12, 6:30-9:30pm**

Acting 200 4 week series of intermediate level classes with a focus on character development. Led by Delphi Michaels. **February 16, 23, Mar 2, 9, 2-4pm**

Swing 234 John Batchelor introduces the upbeat style of swing dancing. Music from the 40's to the 90's. Partners not necessary. **February 18, 7-9pm**

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Monday, February 18
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Woman Assaulted on February 10

by **Kate Moore**

A well known woman who has been active in supporting the gay and lesbian community was raped and beaten Sunday, February 10.

At approximately 1:30 a.m. Sue (not her real name) was walked to her car by a male friend after spending the evening with friends at Faces and the Western. (20th and K Streets.) Reportedly after her friend saw that she had reached her car in the First Interstate parking lot, he turned and walked away. At that moment it was reported that she was attacked by two tall black men, with close cropped hair and was forced into her own car.

Allegedly, the men drove around with Sue in the car and forced her to have sex with them. At one point in the early morning hours, they stopped at the AM/PM at the corner of J St. and 29th and Sue began to yell. This apparently angered the men and they beat her severly. She was found in the gutter behind a nearby restaurant, beaten and bloodied by the sexual assault and physical violence including being run over by her own vehicle.

The Sacramento police department is reportedly treating this case as a hate crime and have an all-points bulletin out for the two men. They were last seen driving the victim's white 1986 Chevrolet Spectrum, two door, license number FYT AIDS. If you have any information about the two suspects call the Sacramento Police Department - 449-5471.

Hate Crimes Legislation Introduced

Legislation was introduced last week to stiffen penalties for "hate crimes" against gays as well as ethnic, religious and other minorities.

Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy and Sen. Bill Lockyer, D-Hayward, unveiled the new legislation in the face of a sharp increase in hate crimes in the state ranging from Arab-American harrassment to a firebomb being thrown at a gay church in San Francisco.

By existing law, hate crimes are defined as violence, intimidation or vandalism committed because of the victims race, color, religion, or sexual orientation.

The new bill, SB 98, would increase both civil and criminal penalties for hate crimes as well as attempt to make such acts easier for prosecutors to prove. The measure would double sentences for misdemeanor hate crimes from six months to one year in jail, in addition to increasing civil penalties from $10,000 to $25,000 and allow juries to order large punitive damage awards in lawsuits.

Lockyer said the bill also would provide larger sentences for repeat offenders or those acting in concert with others.

In recent months the Sacramento gay community has seen an increase in reported hate crimes since the state has begun to track those figures.

"In my own district, there were at least 75 hate crimes in just the last year...attacks on people on the street attributable to their race or sexual orientation," Lockyer said.

According to a minority group spokesperson,"People must be educated to understand that these acts of intimidation and oppression are real crimes and are punishable by real fines and real time in jail, and will be taken seriously by law enforcement authorities.

DISCHARGED

continued from page 1

Gulf war that is being ignored by unit commanders.

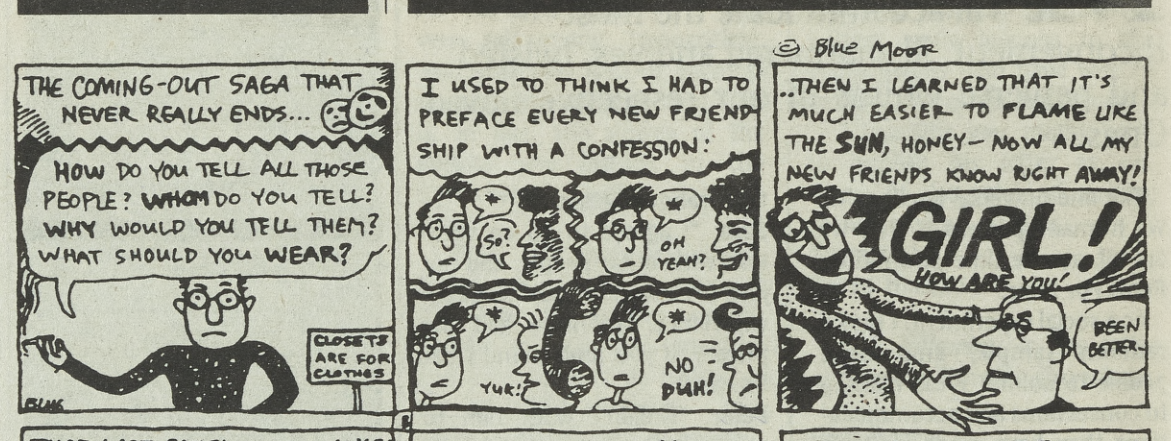
Department of Defense official policy and regulations prohibit lesbians and gay men from serving in the American armed forces and over 1,000 people annually are discharged from the U.S. military because of sexual orientation according the Pentagon.

Brig. General M.G. Vergamini, Director for Manpower and Personnel at the Department of Defense, said "The procedures currently in place would defer separations from the armed forces only for fairly minor infractions," Vergamini said following the report that gays would be allowed to serve in the Persian Gulf. "In no way would we consider delaying separation [from active duty] of someone, say, who had been accused of rape or who admitted that he was homosexual. The policy that homosexuality is incompatible with military service remains in effect. Period. And whether Commander Satterfield is quoted correctly or not, the story is categorically untrue. It's preposterous to think we would allow homosexuals to serve in active duty in the Persian Gulf."

Paul DiDonato, legal director of the National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) said, "NGRA is getting lots of calls from people being given different stories about what the policy is," he said. "And discharges that would have happened very quickly months ago now seem to be taking a long time. Without having an official change in policy, their [the military's] practice of how they deal with people seems to have change relatively dramatically, actually."

DiDonato said he believes the Pentagon has left the "official" policy against gays and lesbians in place while letting field and unit commanders essentially ignore it.

"I suspect that behind the scenes they are trying to do everything in their power to keep everybody - including gays, lesbians and bisexuals - in the services right now," DiDonato said. "And if that means slowing up paper work [on discharges], if that means not doing a witch hunt, whatever the tactic, they're slowing it down so that they can have their cake and eat it too. They can get gays and lesbians to serve, and then they'll worry about getting rid of us after the war's over."


© Blue Moor
THE COMING-OUT SAGA THAT NEVER REALLY ENDS...
HOW DO YOU TELL ALL THOSE PEOPLE? WHOM DO YOU TELL? WHY WOULD YOU TELL THEM? WHAT SHOULD YOU WEAR?
CLOSETS ARE FOR CLOTHES
BLUE
I USED TO THINK I HAD TO PREFACE EVERY NEW FRIENDSHIP WITH A CONFESSION:
So?
OH YEAH?
YUK!
NO DUH!
..THEN I LEARNED THAT IT'S MUCH EASIER TO FLAME LIKE THE SUN, HONEY— NOW ALL MY NEW FRIENDS KNOW RIGHT AWAY!
GIRL!
HOW ARE YOU!
BEEN BETTER
THAT LAST PANEL WAS A JOKE! I'M AS STRAIGHT-ACTING, AS LEATHERY, DADDYISH-MACHO HAIRY-HUNG-TOP AS THE NEXT GIRL!
BUT I DIGRESS..WHY SHOULD YOU TELL PEOPLE? BECAUSE THE MORE GAY PEOPLE A PERSON KNOWS, THE MORE LIKELY THEY ARE TO BE HIP AND COOL.
You KNOW IT'S A FACT!
THE ISSUE OF "WHAT TO WEAR" IS ALWAYS A TOUCHY ONE, MOST ESPECIALLY WHEN COMING OUT TO PARENTS. BASIC BLACK IS ALWAYS GOOD, BUT CONSIDER LIGHTENING THINGS UP WITH, FOR EXAMPLE, A GOLD LAMÉ JUMPER! USE YOUR IMAGINATION IN THESE SITUATIONS.

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OUTTA TOWN

Chico's Lesbians and Gays Invisibility on Campus

by **David Welton**

Invisible. For the last four years that was the most accurate description of gay and lesbian students on the Chico State campus. But campus gay activists Doug Dinnell and Dennis Partington have pledged to change that.

Dinnell and Partington recently founded the Alternative Lifestyles Alliance (ALA), the first lesbian and gay organization since the Gay and Lesbian Union ceased operation in 1987. According to ALA documents, the group is "a social and educational organization dedicated to providing a safe and supportive outlet for gay, lesbian and bisexual students at CSUC."

"Someone had to get it done," best describes the responsibility and commitment Dinnell felt to the CSUC gay and lesbian community.

Dinnell, a 24-year-old communications major from Auburn, cites an example for the necessity of the group. "Suicide rates are three times higher for young gay and lesbian students than for heterosexuals. Along with other pressures of college life, including students that are away from home for the first time, the pressures can be overwhelming." "Moving away from home often gives students the first opportunity to explore their adult 'affectionality,'" explains Dinnell, who plans to pursue a master's degree in psychology.

Pat Alford-Keating, Ph.D., a lesbian psychologist, acts as advisor to the ALA. She also facilitates a Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Discussion and Support Group where she empowers students by encouraging them to be more visible. She succinctly states, "The more visible we are, the better it will be." Partington, a 21-year-old computer science major from Auburn, agrees with Alford-Keating's approach. "Visibility is an important thing. Until people see an active gay and lesbian group, they might never realize that there are gay people right here in Chico. Visibility will confront people with their fears and hopefully educate them."

Dinnell and Partington attended the same Auburn area high school and Sierra College in Rocklin, but first met while attended CSUC.

Partington underscores the importance of visible role models for younger students. "I think a lot of homophobia in high school is because homosexuality is almost hypothetical. There isn't anyone visible who is gay, so students never really think about gays

Continued on page 8

Tampa Bay's Gay Float

Tampa Bay's gay and lesbian community sponsored a float as part of the host city's celebration of Super Bowl XXV.

The 1991 parade replaced Tampa's traditional Gasparilla festivities amid some recent controversy that has focused on the community's diversity, and the need for broad participation in public events.

The float's theme "Celebrating America's Rainbow" was inspired by the evolving appreciation of social and cultural diversity in the community. "The use of the rainbow symbol pays tribute to the differences that color and enrich the fabric of American life", according to Keith Roberts, one of the float organizers. Riders on the float represented various walks of life and their dress reflected the country's ethnic variety. Spirited music of gay American composers like Aaron Copeland and Leonard Bernstein added to the overall effect of the float.

The time and energies of many talented people were contributed for design, construction, engineering and promotion making the float a community event.

ACT-UP Update in S.F.

Rink Foto

10 people were arrested because they chained themselves to BART.

San Francisco AIDS activists declared the city a "disaster area" on January 28 and replaced thousands of copies of the San Francisco Chronicle with a four page leaflet that carried the headline " 7000 Dead in City. . . No relief in From Feds."

The leaflet contained information about AIDS and the terms used to understand the virus and the treatments associated with it.

Mark Spark, a member of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT-UP) is quoted as saying, "If the federal government can spend billions of dollars on war, why can't they spend billions of dollars on AIDS in this country, where it is needed?"

Rink Foto

The fake Chronicle was titled Chronic Liar.

In another protest action on the day before, activists chained themselves to a Bay Area Rapid Transit train and again handed out information. 10 people were arrested and booked into city jail for endangering a train, a felony, and interferring with police. The flyers that were handed out are quoted as saying "Today, for a short time, you may experience the trapped feeling of someone who cannot get what they need."

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"God's Love Is Inclusive"

POLL
continued from page 1

there is; public opinion will change like it did in the Vietnam era."

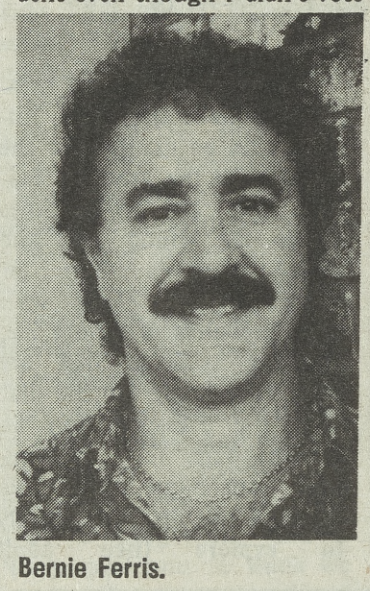
Walter Mullir.

Mullir also expressed concern about spending money on guns instead of butter. "I'm mainly concerned about how it's going to affect the economy. I mean, look at all the homeless people. I'm in property management, and we already have a recession. The government will have to raise taxes. They're already talking about it."

Down the street at the Mercantile Saloon, Canadian native **Ray "Rags" Lewis**, 47, expressed concern about how the war would affect AIDS funding. Yet, he said, ousting Iraq from Kuwait was an international effort. "The U.N. Charter has been backed by many nations around the world. The world won't tolerate aggression. It doesn't make it right to have a war, but that's the reality of it." Lewis was also concerned about the perceived double standard that exists for gays in the military. "It's OK to be gay or lesbian, as long as there's a war; but Bush says when the war's over, we'll talk about the sexual orientation issue."

Ray "Rags" Lewis.

While serving cocktails at Faces, manager **Bernie Ferris**, 51, said, "I support the President even though I didn't vote for him. It's better to confront Saddam Hussein over there, now, rather than somewhere else, or here, later."



Bernie Ferris.

Back at the Golden Lantern Apartments on N Street, tears were shed by **Etta Reiswig**, 50, as she discussed the war "I have a sister-in-law going over there in two weeks," she said. "I'm hoping she won't be in a war zone."

Launa Cornwell

Mo Jones.

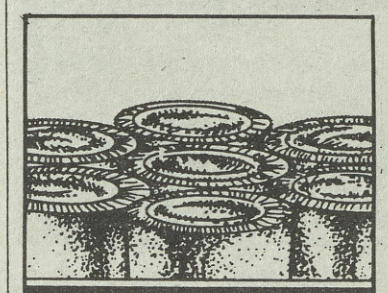
"The war is wrong," she said. "We don't need to be in it. The Arabs would've solved it themselves. I wished they would've negotiated a peaceful settlement. Bush shouldn't have given the Iraqis a time limit to get out of Kuwait. I think by doing that he pushed Hussein into rebelling against the U.S."

Neighbor **Mo Jones**, 23, added, "I think the biggest fear that many people have is losing the natural resources of the world, and also the young people. It hurts me to think of all the pain and suffering this is going to cause. It makes you wonder if it's worth it." "I support the troops," she said. "I want to see as many as possible of them come home safe. Their lives are our future."

CHICO
continued from page 7

in a positive way." University officials have voiced their support for the ALA. Rick Rees, Associate Director of Student Activities, is "glad to see the interest in a gay and lesbian organization on campus." Community support is also strong. Eric Ruben, President of the Stonewall Alliance of Chico, a community-based gay and lesbian organization, is encouraged by the re-emergence of a campus group. "I support them and fully expect them to meet the needs of gay and lesbian students." Partington describes how leadership of the ALA has changed his life. "Now I'm not just out to myself and my friends; but in a very visible way, I'm out to the community at large." For further information, contact Alternative Lifestyles Alliance, CSUC Associated Students, Bell Memorial Union, Chico, A 95929.

Kate Moore



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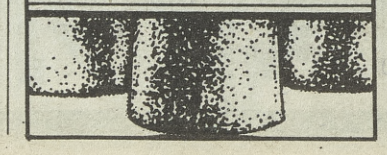

HIV POSITIVE

AIDS Foundation Recruiting

Volunteers to Take Up Slack

by **Arturo Jackson III**

Two new volunteer programs offering assistance to individuals diagnosed with AIDS and ARC (AIDS-related complex) are being implemented by the Sacramento AIDS Foundation (SAF).

The Benefits Volunteer Program and Mental Health Professional Network will restore a few of the services provided by SAF until late last year when the organization faced severe funding cutbacks.

According to Shoshana Zatz, SAF Client Program Developer, "since our budget cuts and loss of staff, we no longer have the resources available to offer clients mental health counseling, or even to help clients fill out forms as they apply for benefits."

The Benefits Volunteer Program will have trained volunteers available to assist SAF clients with completing detailed government forms required when a person applies for benefits as a disabled person.

The first group of Benefits Volunteers numbered sixteen and were initially trained in the application requirements for government programs ranging from food stamps to social security.

The Mental Health Professional Network will link SAF clients in need of mental health therapy with psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers. The mental health professionals participating in the program have agreed to provide services for a small fee, and/or accept MediCal insurance coverage as payment.

Shoshana Zatz, SAF Client Program Developer.

For more information, regarding the Benefits Volunteer Program or Mental Health Professional Network, contact Shoshana Zatz at the Sacramento AIDS Foundation. (916) 448-2437.

Petitions Demand Change

Doctors Wait For ddI-ddC

The Food and Drug Administration is reviewing the citizen's petition submitted to the agency in December, urging the approval of the AIDS drugs ddI and ddC by March 1.

According to FDA press spokesman Brad Stone, "we are reviewing the citizens' petition and our decision will go beyond these two drugs and impact the entire drug approval process. The FDA normally has 180 days to respond to citizens' petitions and it is unlikely we will render a decision by the deadline."

The petition signed by over 180 San Francisco area doctors, nurses and medical aides, requested early approval of the drugs based on preliminary trial results indicating ddI and ddC are both effective in slowing virus reproduction. The medical workers emphasized that access to ddI and ddC is important for people with HIV who cannot tolerate AZT.

Approximately 5 in every 100 people with HIV "fall through this crack in medical care," Dr. William Owen stated at the time the petition was submitted.

"Addictive"

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452-1829

Is Mycoplasma the Missing Link?

by **Arturo Jackson III**

Recent reports published on mycoplasma incognitus, has brought attention to the unanswered questions why some people with HIV develop AIDS and some do not.

In 1986, Shyh-Ching Lo, director of research of AIDS programs for the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, was the first to identify the organism in cells taken from patients diagnosed with AIDS.

Lo's hypothesis is that the mycoplasma incognitus organism somehow interacts with the HIV virus triggering a more aggressive and deadly assault on the host's immune system. The researcher contends that the presence of mycoplasma incognitus in the bodily fluids of those exposed to the HIV virus marks the essential difference and determining factor in those whose health will deteriorate and eventually develop AIDS and those who will remain healthy.

"This is a key co-factor that promotes disease in HIV-infected individuals. It might be an opportunistic infection that takes advantage of immune compromise, or it might be the primary cause of the disease, with HIV perhaps helping it along," Lo is quoted as stating.

After identifying mycoplasma incognitus in cells taken from patients diagnosed with AIDS, the researcher discovered the organism was suspiciously absent when the cells from healthy individuals were examined. In an effort to validate his theory, Lo injected the organism into four silvered leaf monkeys. In the experiment, three of the monkeys quickly developed low-grade fevers and all four lost weight and died within seven to nine months of infection. Upon completion of the autopsies, Lo identified mycoplasma incognitus in the brains, livers

Continued on page 12

Buddy Connection

This fun, sex-positive workshop uses exercises, videos and tips on safe and pleasurable sex to encourage men to take charge and eliminate unsafe sex. *Buddy Connections* are held from 7-9 p.m. at the SAF Training Space, 1900 K Street, Suite 200, Sacramento. You'll be glad you came!

Buddy Connections are scheduled for:

Fri., Mar. 15
Fri., Apr. 19
Fri., May 10
Fri., June 7

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FIRED

continued from page 1

While the Lambda Center by-laws state that the board should have a minimum of 11 members, currently only five of the seats are filled.

The remaining board members and staff have, on the whole, been very circumspect about releasing information regarding the departure of Harper and the hiring of Donna Yutzy, (the new Acting Executive Director of the Lambda Center) who was hired upon Harper's termination. Both board members and staff agree that things could have been handled more smoothly, but all agree that Harper was not the right choice for the position, and say that good faith efforts were made to warn Harper that her relationship with the Board had some serious drawbacks.

Harper claims that the Center could be held liable in a wrongful termination suit, particularly since she relocated to Sacramento from Los Angeles.

> "It's very simple. We don't have to disclose to the public the reasons for her termination."

In response to Harper's claim, Covino strongly disagrees. "She was terminated during the probationary period, and we were very clear about our concern over her relocating. In a conference call between Jerry, Willis (Bennett, another Board member) Trish and myself, we made it very clear that she would have probationary status. We were concerned about her moving, in case it didn't work out, and she specifically said she was relocating anyway."

Harper offered a dissenting viewpoint, "That's not true, I moved here for the job, and no other reason. Yes, I had said I'd like to move north, out of L.A. But I severed my contract with Feinstein's campaign a week early, a week before election day. I moved for the job. If the job had been in the Bay Area, I would have moved there."

One of Harper's defenders, Joe Hawkins, founder of the Sacramento Chapter of the Black Men's XChange, and an executive Committee member of the River City Democratic Club, also expressed surprise at her termination. While he clarified that he could only speak as an individual not as a spokesperson, "I was very surprised. I couldn't understand, since in my involvement with the Center, I thought she had been doing an outstanding job. I'd seen the kind of changes that had been occurring and I was encouraged."

However, Hawkins said that he had been warned off the issue by Board members, "I was told that I shouldn't pursue it, because of the nature of the issue. I was told that there was something very personal that could be damaging, and they were trying to protect her."

Lambda Center staff member Shannon Lindauer expressed anger at Harper's perceived quest for retaliation against the board and the staff. "It's very simple. We don't have to disclose to the public the reasons for her termination. She was on a 90 day probationary period, which did not work out. We're doing this to protect Trisha, so she doesn't get slammed. But I'm losing respect for her. It's one person, a very articulate person, trying to bring down an entire organization. It's like a Tasmanian Devil is loose, tearing around town spreading dirt."

Jerry Sloan also expresses dismay at the fallout over Harper's departure from the Center. "We took a chance, and it just didn't work out. We had three options: to continue her probation, to put her on permanent status or to choose not to extend her employment. We just felt that it was never going to work out. It's not a matter of 'This is your sin, this is our sin,' there just was not a basis for a good working relationship."

When questioned about the timing of Harper's termination and the immediate hiring of Donna Yutzy, Sloan said that it was partly done for the sake of expediency. Yutzy had been one of the original candidates for the position, and withdrew herself from consideration during the (reportedly) rancorous selection process.

She later worked as a volunteer with the board to develop a list of goals and objectives, as part of the board's development of a master plan. "She was one of the original candidates, and she did go through a formal interview with the board. No, we didn't re-advertise, because we didn't feel we had to. The Board has acted responsibly to give the Center the best leader possible."

"It is time to make the Board of the Lambda Center accountable to the whole community" said Harper. With six remaining seats on the Lambda Board, opportunity for change is still possible, but remains entirely dependent upon the will of the existing board members.

THE MOSTLY UNFABULOUS SOCIAL LIFE OF ETHAN GREEN.
JESUS, THIS REALLY PISSES ME OFF.
WHAT IS IT?
THIS JOB APPLICATION WANTS TO KNOW IF I'M "a) MARRIED" OR "b) SINGLE"...
SO?
SO, IT'S EXCLUSIONARY TO LABEL A PERSON "SINGLE" JUST BECAUSE HE OR SHE ISN'T MARRIED.
APPLICATION
SPOCK- I'LL HAVE TO WRESTLE THE ALIEN LIFE FORM WITH MY SHIRT OFF.
I MEAN IF I'M DATING SOMEONE, IS IT FAIR TO CALL ME "SINGLE"?
ARE ALL THE GAY PEOPLE WHO SHARE WONDERFUL LOVING UNIONS, WHO ADOPT CHILDREN TOGETHER, WHO OWN HOMES TOGETHER, WHO GROW OLD TOGETHER, ARE THEY "SINGLE"?
LIZA AND BETH AREN'T MARRIED, BUT THEY'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR 5 YEARS, ARE THEY "SINGLE"?
THIS IS JUST ANOTHER PATHETIC ATTEMPT BY STRAIGHT SOCIETY TO DENY THE LEGITIMACY OF GAY RELATIONSHIPS! I SHOULD TORCH THE THING!
APPLICATION
HEAR HEAR
APPLICATION
I SHOULD ORGANIZE A BOYCOTT OF THEIR PRODUCTS! I SHOULD JOIN QUEER NATION AND HAVE THIS COMPANY'S OFFICES LOVE BOMBED!
OR MAYBE I SHOULD JUST ADD A 3RD BOX LABELED "UNMARRIED" TO THE APPLICATION. ...YES... THATS EXACTLY WHAT I'LL DO.... BOY, WON'T THAT SHOW THE BASTARDS. HA!
ETHAN GREEN: PORTRAIT OF A REBEL.
I LIKE TO THINK OF HIM AS GAY AMERICA'S CHE GUEVARA.
©1991 Eric Orner
3

the latest NEWS BITS

"L.A. Love"

NBC made television history Thursday, February 7 on the NBC program "L.A. Law", when two female characters, C.J. Lamb (Amanda Donohoe) and Abby Perkins (Michele Greene) kissed - and delivered the first "lesbian" kiss on television.

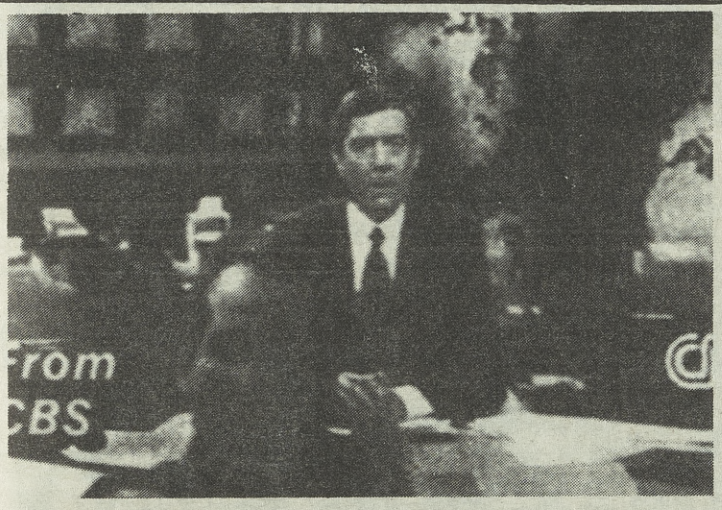
A spokesperson for the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation applauded the show stating, "It is about time lesbians were recognized as being beautiful, intellegent and sexy women on television."

NBC reportedly received only 85 calls on the "controversial show" and just a little more than half were negative.

"L.A. Law" is known for breaking the boundries of traditional television.

Stonewall Awards Include Money

A foundation established by Chicago futures trader Paul Anderson has presented its first set of Stonewall Awards to: San Franciscan Martin Delaney of Project Inform; Thom Dombrowski of the Howard Brown Memorial Clinic in Chicago; and Urvashi Vaid of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. But unlike most awards in the lesbian and gay community, Anderson's prizes are backed with a financial wallop -- $25,000, no strings attached. The foundation's sole purpose, according to Anderson, is "to create a national platform where individuals . . . will be honored for their efforts on behalf of gays and lesbians."



ACT-UP Disrupts News

Millions of Americans saw their first live AIDS protest Tuesday January 22, as three members of an ACT-Up/New York affinity group launched a surprise demonstration on the air of the *CBS Evening News* broadcast.

Gay author John Weir and two other protesters staged the demonstration after eluding CBS security guards and entering the television studio in New York City Tuesday evening just before the national news program's broadcast at 6:30 p.m. Just as the cameras went live to anchor Dan Rather, viewers could hear voices chanting, "Fight AIDS, not Arabs" and Weir's face appeared in the lower left hand corner of the screen.

Later in the program, according to CBS spokesperson Denise Deese, Rather apologized for the disruption, saying there had been some "rude people here." "They tryed to stage a demonstration," said Rather, "They've been ejected from the studio, but our apologies for the way we began."

Washington Blade

Queers Cause Arsenio Uprising

About a dozen members of Queer Nation/LA disrupted the taping of Arsenio Hall's December 14 show at Paramount Studios in Los Angeles. The show, with many of the confrontations between an outraged Hall and QN members edited out, aired later that evening. As taping began, the activists stood up singly or in pairs and demanded that Hall explain why he allowed homophobic remarks to be made on his show, or when he was going to have some openly gay guests on the show.

At first, Hall seemed taken aback and argued that because he was black, he understood oppression and would never discriminate on his show. Then he launched into a "joke is a joke" defense. But as activists continued to interrupt him, he got angry.

"He marched into the audience and said, 'Get your own show, I'm tired of this gay trash,'" reported QN member Scott Robbe. After each outburst, the activists who stood and spoke were escorted out of the studio.

Watkins Receives Settlement

After a decade-long battle with the U.S. military, Perry Watkins has become the first recognized gay person to receive retirement benefits from the Army.

In a settlement disclosed by the American Civil Liberties Union, Watkins said he hopes he is not the last homosexual to successful challenge the military ban on gays, and he will continue to fight until the policy is changed.

According to the ACLU, Watkins will receive back pay of $135,000 in addition to retirement benefits.

Watkins said "Every able-bodied American who serves the country should be judged [on merit]." Watkins fought a long and expensive battle, but never gave up, although his case often seemed hopeless. In a speech at a National March for Gay and Lesbian Rights, Watkins said, "it is quite often stated that changes are brought about by people who are willing to die for what they believe . . . rather it is those of us who are willing to live for what we believe until we die. I am an American. I am black and I am gay and now I would like to be free."

San Francisco Sentinel

Firemen's Insures Gay Partners

Firemen's Insurance Company of Washington, D.C., one of America's oldest business firms, has become the first insurance company in the nation to file a homeowners policy change that recognizes domestic partners. By redefining who is insured, the endorsement extends to domestic partners the automatic coverage rights enjoyed by spouses and relatives. According to Carl Blundell, CPCU, a company underwriting manager who created the new endorsement, "this homeowners policy change will extend automatic coverage to anyone with whom an insured has a close, committed personal relationship that involves sharing household responsibilities and owning property together. Automatic coverage applies after an insured has established such a relationship and lived with their domestic partner continuously for at least six months."

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Exploding Dildos

by **Keith Clark**

A San Francisco man, widely reported to be an Iraqi terrorist found to have been carrying an explosive device, was the victim of a series of mistakes and exaggerations because of "national paranoia" who was in fact only carrying a vibrator type dildo at the time.

Duraid Jafar Azawi, 35, an Iraqi-born U.S. resident living here, became the object of an intense statewide all-points--bulletin law enforcement search shortly after war broke out in the Persian Gulf last month.

During a routine search of his automobile back in Novemeber, a vibrator was found in the glove compartment. Apparently the arresting police officers were unfamiliar with vibrator dildoes and turned it over to police technicians as an unidentified electrical device. A police bomb squad technician then destroyed the vibrator in what authorities described as a "routine detonation."

FBI agents, searching a storage locker kept by Azawi, found several other vibrators and the explosives charge was dropped, although Azawi is being held on forgery charges in an unrelated case.

Police could not say immediately what had become of the other vibrators Azawi had in his possession, but they were quite clear that he would not be allowed to have them while he is in custody.

MYCOPLASMA

continued from page 9

and spleens of the monkeys.

In further studies, Lo reported identifying mycoplasma incognitus in damaged tissue samples examined from the bodies of six people who had tested **HIV-negative** for antibodies to the HIV virus. All six had died from unspecified causes after experiencing a series of symptoms remarkably similar to those associated with AIDS.

For almost three years, the medical and scientific communities greeted Lo's research findings with skepticism and disbelief. Lo found himself in the awkward position of being a lone voice telling the international AIDS research community that their direction and understanding of the HIV virus over the course of the epidemic was wrong.

Dr. Neil Flynn.

It wasn't until the Sixth International Conference on AIDS last June that Lo would hear noted Luc Montagnier, the French discoverer of HIV, announce that the virus is a benign virus that only becomes dangerous when it interacts with a second bacteria-like organism named mycoplasma. The researcher explained to the conference attendees that in culture experiments, HIV remained harmless and passive until he added mycoplasma which mutated the virus to burst human body cells utilized in the experiment.

Local HIV expert Dr. Neil Flynn, Director of CARES and U.C. Davis ARD Clinic, believes identification of co-factors is the key. "Ultimately, we may be able to slow down the HIV virus if we can identify these co-factors and mycoplasma incognitus may be one of these. Other mycoplasma's are spread venereally and it would be my guess that they would find this one to be as well." Dr. Flynn added, "what's needed now is fast research and funding to test those with HIV for the mycoplasma organism. We must follow these leads before another 100,000 people die of AIDS."

Dykes To Watch Out For

GULF BALL
©1991 BY ALISON BECHDEL
103
ON THE HOME FRONT...
WHAT AN INTERCEPTION, STEVE!
YES SIR, THERE SURE IS SOME BUTT GETTING KICKED OUT ON THE FIELD TODAY!
STILL, THE SCORE IS SURPRISINGLY CLOSE!
WELL, WE HAVEN'T SEEN THE REAL HEAVY ARTILLERY YET, TED.
LOIS! HOW CAN YOU WATCH THE SUPER BOWL AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
I WISH IT WAS THE SUPER BOWL.
WE'LL BE BACK WITH MORE EXCITING DESCRIPTIONS OF MISSILES, PAYLOADS, AND EXPLOSIONS AFTER THIS WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR, GENERAL ELECTRIC.
THE WAR channel
MEANWHILE, OUT ON THE STREETS...
WHO WILL PROFIT? WHO WILL DIE?
WAR IS DUMB! BUSH IS SCUM!
STOP THE MADNESS
IMPEACH BUSH
DON'T CRY, BABE! YOUR EYES ARE GONNA FREEZE SHUT!
IMPEACH
GO AHEAD, TONI... HAVE YOUR FEELINGS! WAR'S A BUMMER! BUT THINK OF THIS AS THE TRANSITION INTO THE AGE OF AQUARIUS. IT'S THE DEATH THROES OF PATRIARCHAL MILITARY CULTURE!
YEAH, RIGHT. AND MAYBE THE DEATH THROES OF EVERY OTHER KIND OF CULTURE INTO THE BARGAIN.
NO ONE WINS
DRAFT GEORGE BUSH!
BRING OUR BOYFRIENDS HOME!
YELL A LITTLE, TONI! IT'LL MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER!
WHY SHOULD I FEEL BETTER? PEOPLE ARE GETTING KILLED AND WE'RE PAYING FOR IT!
DRAFT DAN QUAYLE!
YEAH. Y'KNOW, REFUSING TO PAY OUR TAXES WOULD STOP THE WAR MACHINE A LOT FASTER THAN CHANTING SLOGANS.
DRAFT NEIL BUSH WHEN HE GETS OUTTA JAIL!
REFUSE TO PAY TAXES? DO THEY LET YOU DO THAT?!

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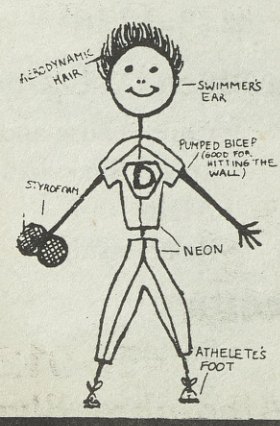

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Family Registry Rights Threatened by New Bill

by **Stacy Selmants**

Recently, a quirk in the law allowing gays and lesbians to register as a "family" with the Secretary of State's office has surfaced in the media and has provoked a predictable backlash from the people who most fear gays' fight for equality-- the fundamentalist Traditional Values Coalition (TVC).

In retaliation, the TVC has sponsored a piece of legislation-- Senate Bill 192-- which gay activists predict will be amended to include language that would expressly prohibit registration of "nontraditional" family units.

Family registration is important for several reasons: (1) It is a move to legitimize gay and lesbian relationships, and to promote a greater sense of visibility; (2) It is a meaningful weapon when used in conjunction with other means of establishing a record of a couple's commitment, in relation to discrimination lawsuits; and (3) It is helpful, when used with documents conferring power of attorney for health care, to gain access to medical records, receive preferential visitation rights, and be otherwise involved in health related decision making.

Currently, SB 192 (Russell) is a "spot" bill which primarily restates Section 21300 of the Corporations Code relating to nonprofit associations, but the bill's introduction provides a method to insert language to prohibit the registration of homosexual families. The problem for Lou Sheldon of the TVC, according to Laurie McBride of the Lobby for Freedom and Equality (LIFE), is that it is difficult to close the existing "loophole" in the code without adversely affecting heterosexual families.

"He's got a problem, because he can't bar same sex families, because that would eliminate fathers and sons or mothers and daughters," McBride said. "And, again, he's using the issue to raise funds. He registered a 'homosexual family' just to prove it could be done, and is using that in his propaganda."

Both LIFE and California's chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) are monitoring SB 192, and will be opposing it.

In TVC's latest tirade to "oppose this campaign to homosexualize our families," Sheldon's organization takes aim at the Family Diversity Project, (which spearheaded the drive to publicize family registry) and the introduction of Assembly Bills 101 and 167. AB 101 amends the nondiscrimination clauses in state employment and housing statutes to include homosexuality and bisexuality. AB 167 would change the Civil Code to read "two persons" instead of "a man and a woman" in relation to marriage requirements. Family registry is a corollary goal to legalize gay marriages.

Family Registry: The How To Guide

1) To file, family registration forms are available from the Secretary of State's Office. Ask for an application to register an unincorporated nonprofit association (Corporation Code Section 21300). The forms are free, and can be obtained by contacting the Special Filing Unit of the Secretary of State, at 923 12th Street, 3rd Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814/ 916-324-6778.

2) Complete the document, and where the document requires the name of the non-profit association, fill in the words "Family of..." followed by the names of all the family members. Children, if any, also should be included.

3) All adult members should sign the document, to clarify that all family members are willing participants in the filing action.

4) To register the name, a $10 filing fee is required. Additionally, a family "insignia" (which can be a motto, a statement of principles or other thematic statements) can also be registered, for an additional $10.

5) Request a certified copy of the application, which constitutes proof of the signatories. This will cost an additional $6, but will provide you with proof that your family is legitimately registered with the state. There is a six to eight week waiting period before the certificate will arrive.

There are a number of reasons why family registration can be beneficial, but family registration should not be a substitute for a legal power of attorney, cohabitation agreement or other similar documents affording gay and lesbian (and unmarried heterosexuals) legal protection. A more thorough explanation of the implications of and protections afforded by family registry are available by writing to the Spectrum Institute, a non-profit organization sponsoring the Family Diversity Project, at P.O. Box 65756, Los Angeles, CA 90065. A lengthy information packet will be sent to you, for a cost of $10, to defray the cost of photocopying and postage.

Gay Marriage Rights Sought

by **P. J. Dunker**

AB 167 may send legislators buggy, the reason being that the bill changes the languages regarding the legal status for marriages.

No longer will marriage be a civil contract between a man and woman, but instead, it will change to constitute a personal relationship arising out of a civil contract between persons. Yes, that's right. This bill would recognize marriages between two people of the same sex, legally.

Introduced on December 20, 1990, the bill will have already become eligible to be heard before the print date of this publication. The bill has sparked interest in the capitol and the legislative community, even if not noticeably with the media, having already needed to be reprinted once to meet the demands of those people requesting copies of the introduced legislation.

Could it actually be possible for California cities to become the gay/lesbian mecca for marriage, as Reno has become for people in a hurry? I'm sure this will be one of the topics of discussion once this bill is heard on the floor. How will it affect business like caterers, florists, bakeries, and the nuptial departments of Macys? Could we register our china? How will it affect sodomy laws, and consummating a marriage? If you would like to voice your opinion about this or any other legislation, contact your representative, it's not only your right but your obligation as a Sacramento area resident to be heard. Contact: (1) Assembly Member Lloyd Connelly, State Capitol, Room 3173, Sacramento, CA 95814, or 2705 K Street, Suite 6, Sacramento, CA 95816, and/or (2) Senator Leroy F. Greene, State Capitol, Room 3082, Sacramento, CA 95814, or P.O. Box 254646, Sacramento, CA 95825.

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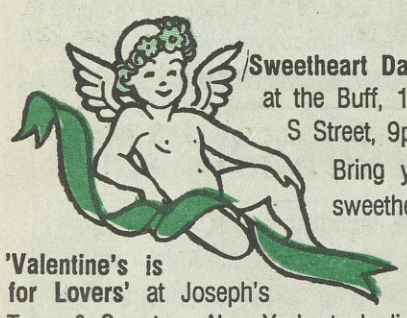
the daily PLAN-IT

February

14 thursday

United in Love, a Valentine's Day Party to benefit BWMT and GLAAD of San Francisco featuring Tom Ammiano. 6p.m. to 10 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church (Franklin & Geary Sts.) (415)861-4588.



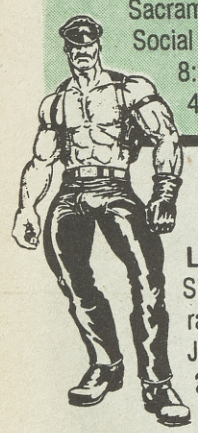
Sweetheart Dance at the Buff, 1831 S Street, 9p.m. Bring your sweetheart.

'Valentine's is for Lovers' at Joseph's Town & Country. New York steak dinner with all the fixings, including a complimentary glass of champagne, dessert & a flower for that special someone. $25.00 per couple from 6p.m. to 9p.m. by reservation only! 649-9248

THURSDAYS

"Being Gay Today", 9p.m on Cable 63, repeat broadcast of lesbian & gay programs from around the country & beyond.

GLAS (Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Sacramento), meets in the CSUS Social Science building, room 236, 8:30 - 10 p.m. for info call 456-3469 or 927-8661



15 friday

Leather & Feather Dinner Show presented by the Sacramento Leather Association Joseph's Town and Country, 2062 Auburn Blvd. For info call 452-0962

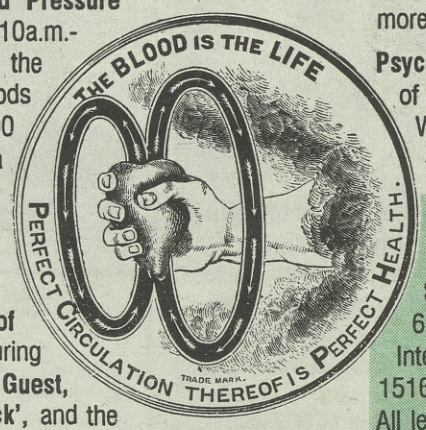
Back to Back, a comedy set in Viet Nam opens at the Chautauqua Playhouse, 5325 Engle Rd. in Carmichael. For tickets and info call 489-7529. Runs weekends through March 23.

FRIDAYS

Country Western Dance, 7:30 p.m in the activity center of River City MCC, 34th St and Broadway. For more info 454-4762

16 saturday

Free Blood Pressure Checking 10a.m.-12p.m. at the Natural Foods Co-op, 1900 Alhambra Blvd. For info call 455-2667



'The Joy of Jazz' featuring **Special Guest, 'Sax Attack'**, and the **CSUS Jazz Ensemble,** 8p.m. at the Music Recital Hall in CSUS University Union, $6 general admission. For more info call 278-6595

Post-Nuclear Fashion Show,to benefit Electric City TV at Amelia's in San Francisco (647 Valencia between 17th & 18th). With, Rainbeau, Father Phil, Jerome, The Water-cooled Electric City Ensemble & The Temple Whores. Admission; $6.66 for more info call (415)861-7131

Alix Dobkin in Concert, 8p.m. Only at Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint,$10 admission. 3583 16th St. at Market in San Francisco, for info call 415)861-7933

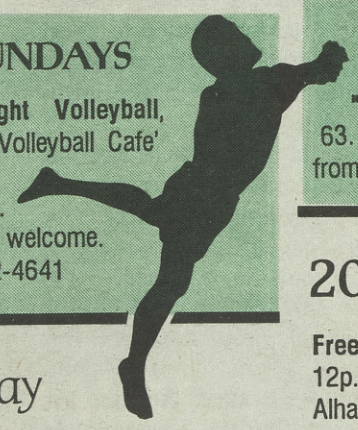
17 sunday

Ruth Amegin James, soprano & Michael Furnoy, pianist, presented by the Crocker Art Museum in the ballroom at 3p.m. For more info call 449-5423.

Psychic Faire 12p.m.-5p.m. at the Church of Enthusiasm & Joy, 2755 Cottage Way Ste.#11. For more info call 489-7503

SUNDAYS

Sunday Night Volleyball, 6p.m.-9p.m. Volleyball Cafe' International, 1516 Howe Ave. All levels of play welcome. For info call 442-4641



18 monday

Swing 234 presented by the Lambda Community Center and dance teacher John Batchelor. 7-9p.m. at 1931 L St. For details call 442-0185.

MONDAYS

HIV + Support Group sponsored by Project Survival, of WCIC. Call 454-0516

Men's Coming-Out Group, Co-sponsored by GLAS and the Lambda Center in the Miwok Room at the CSUS University Union, 5:30 -7p.m. For info call Franklin at the Lambda Center, 442-0185.

19 tuesday

Parents and Friends of Lesbians & Gays will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Christian Education Building at St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 2391 St. Marks Way. The topic will be; "Can a Homosexual be a Christian? presented by the Rev. Freda Smith, Metropolitan Community Church. For more info call 665-1050.

Lewis Cornish;Original Rock 8 - 10;30 p.m. in the Coffee House at the CSUS University Union. For more info call 278-6595

River City Democratic Club's general meeting with speaker Laurie McBride of the Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality. Lambda Community Center 6:30p.m.

TUESDAYS

"Being Gay Today", 10p.m. on Cable 63. 1 hour of lesbian & gay programs from around the country and beyond.

20 wednesday

Free Blood Pressure Checking 10a.m.-12p.m. at the Natural Foods Co-op, 1900 Alhambra Blvd. For info call 455- 2667.

Turtle Island String Quartet will perform at 8p.m. in UC Davis' Freeborn Hall. For ticket info call 752-1915 or BASS outlets at 923 BASS

March

The Fourth Annual Lake Tahoe AIDS Task Force Benefit presents cast members from Bottoms Up '91 and Risque' Business, at Neros 2000 at Caesars Tahoe. The show starts at 8:30 p.m. admission is $10 per person. For more info call 916)542-0131

22 friday

Red, Hot & Cole, a musical celebrating the life of Cole Porter will be at the Davis Musical Theater Company, 2121 2nd St, Davis. For more info call 756-3682.

Feb 22-Mar.30

23 saturday

American Heart Association's Cardiac Rehabilitation Day 5K Fun Walk, Co-sponsored by Sacramento Natural Foods Co-op. Meet at the Med Clinic (Folsom Blvd.) starting at 9a.m. For more info call 455-2667

SACWN's Valentine Dance featuring the band "Heartbeats", 2425 Sierra Blvd. (Howe & Fulton). 8p.m. to midnight. An event for women 21 and over. For info call 486-8985

Minding Your Own Business, a half day workshop for women who wish to open their own business will be presented by the Sacramento Women's Center from 8a.m.-12p.m. at 2306 J St, Suite 200. Space is limited, for info call 441-4207

24 sunday

The MCC Mixed Chorus will be performing a concert led by Dr. Shedrick Wise Jr. featuring the music of African American composers in celebration of Black History month. 3rd and Broadway 6 p.m.

Landscape into Light, Paintings and Prints by Leslie Reid, and **Lithographs** by Nathan Oliveria will be on display at the Richard L. Nelson Gallery on the UC Davis Campus. For more info call 752-8500

25 monday

HIV & Nutrition; Fuel For Your Immune System; with Richard T. Clinton, a Healthy Living event sponsored by the Sacramento AIDS Foundation. 7 -9p.m. at SAF, 1900 K St, second floor, for info call 448-2437

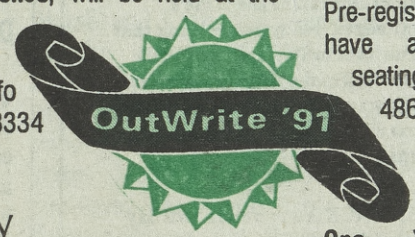
28 thursday

Jessica Williams, Jazz Pianist, presented by The Crocker Art Museum: "From Jessica With Love; in the ballroom at 7p.m. For more info call 449-5423

1 friday

Starlight Comedy Cafe in the Redwood Room at CSUS. University Union, 7:30 p.m. & 10 p.m., $6 general admission. For more info call 278-6595

Outwrite '91, National Lesbian & Gay Writers Conference, will be held at the Cathedral Hill Hotel in San Francisco,for info call (415) 626-3334 March 1,2 & 3.



3 sunday

June Millington, is performing at 10 p.m. at Joseph's Town & Country. For further details call 649-9248

Bluegrass Sunday, at the Crockett Community Center at 2;30 p.m. 850 Pomona St in Crockett. For more info call (415) 285-0339.

"Camelia Classic" Run, Walk and Kid's Event, will open the 1991 Camelia Festival. Race proceeds go to the Chemical Dependency Center for Women. For info call 448-2951

4 monday

Joseph's Town & Country Birthday Celebration! Male & Female strippers, lots of munchies and more. For more info call 649-9248

6 wednesday

Who Will It Hurt When I Die?, a seminar on Probate and 'Living" Trusts presented by Nan Goodart, 7p.m. -9p.m. at the Beverly Garland Hotel. For more info call 422-1404.

The Future of SAF Services; A Client Forum, hosted by Hand to Hand staff members in the SAF training space, 1900 K St, second floor. 7p.m-9p.m. For more info call 448-2437

15 friday

The Best of Lesbianism, Sex-ism and Feminism with Robin Tyler, 8p.m. at the Holiday Inn Holidome, Madison and I-80. Presented by SACWN. Tickets are: $12 pre-registered, $15 at the door, $10 sliding scale. Pre-registered ticket holders will have access to reserved seating. For more info call 486-8985.

16 saturday

One Year at Shangri-La! celebration by Music by Joey. 9p.m.- 2a.m. Shangri- La, 6339 Mack Road, $5.00 cover. 427-5713.

18 monday

Legal Aspects of HIV, part of the Sacramento AIDS Foundation Healthy Living Series. 7p.m.-9p.m. in the SAF Training space, 1900 K St, Second floor. For more info call 448-2437

19 tuesday

Nurturing Tradition, Fostering Change Conference, presented by the California Commission on the Status of Women, at the Beverly Garland Hotel. For more info write to 1303 J Street, suite 400, Sacramento Ca 95814.

March 19, 20, & 21

23 saturday

Camp Awards at Joseph's Town and Country. 2062 Auburn Blvd. Tickets $10., doors open at 6 p.m. show starts at 7.

Plan-It In Advance

To list your events in the Daily Plan-it, send a brief description of the event along with any graphic images you may have before the 5th of each month to: **the latest ISSUE**, P.O. Box 160584, Sacramento, CA 95816.

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The next Sacramento EXPERIENCE is April 19, 20, and 21. For more information, to attend a preview, or to register, call 481-0105.

dear BLABBY

Two Lesbians Need Advice

Dear Blabby,

I am a lesbian who has been single for the past 5 years and I have a question about safe sex. I know that lesbians can get AIDS, but no one has ever said if women need to be concerned about oral sex during menstruation. It seems that if it was to be avoided the AIDS education communities would be making a big deal of it, but I have never heard a thing. Is it safe?

Debbie Queen

Debbie,

This is actually a very good question, because at one time, it was believed that lesbians engaging in oral sex were not at risk. However, more recent information clearly indicates that this is not the case. A call to the San Francisco AIDS Information Hotline confirmed that the AIDS virus is carried in any type of blood, including menstrual blood. So be careful! (By the way, the Hotline phone number is 1-800-367-2437. They can also provide pamphlets on safe sex.) It was also believed by some that the virus is killed by saliva; but once again, this is not true. So remember, oral sex is not safe, no matter what the gender of the participants, when one participant has AIDS or is HIV positive.

Dear Blabby,

I am in love with a woman I have been living with for the past eight months. Just recently, she has been getting rude and obnoxious when she drinks. She hurts my feelings and sometimes she becomes violent. I love her and I don't know what to do. Please help.

C.R.

Dear C.R.

Given the codependent nature of the lesbian community, let me remind you that your first responsibility is to take care of yourself, and not let your desire to help your partner override your need to not be victimized. It is imperative for both of you that you not make excuses for your friend's behavior, no matter how altered it may be by alcohol. But don't misunderstand; I'm not advocating that you leave her high and dry.

Find a time to sit down with your friend and explain to her how her alcohol abuse is affecting you. Let her know that no matter how much you love her, her behavior is not acceptable. Together, you should plan a strategy to help her overcome her problem, whether that be participating in a program together, or her getting help by herself, with your support on the side. Let her know that you are willing to stand by her, as long as she is taking positive steps toward stopping the alcohol abuse.

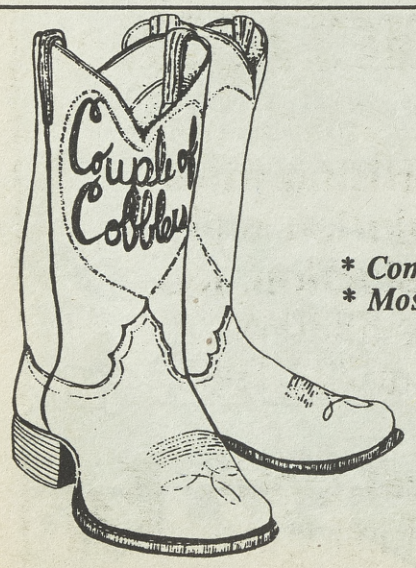
There are a number of programs, perhaps the most well knowing being Alcoholics Anonymous. This has been a successful program for people willing to accept a particular system of beliefs about alcoholism and about life. Therapy, either individual or group, is another option. And for some people, an extended period of abstinence in conjunction with the support of friends and family, has done the trick. The best option depends on the individual. For more information about programs, call your doctor, or the Sacramento County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrator at 366-2736.

Ultimately, you must realize that you cannot solve your friend's problem. Only she can. If she is unwilling (or unable), then it is up to you to decide whether you are willing to accept her alcohol-induced behavior, and whether you want to share you life with an alcoholic.

Good luck to both of you.

dear BLABBY welcomes letters on any subject. Be sure to include your name and phone number for verification. We will not print your name if you wish to remain anonymous.

the latest ISSUE
P.O. Box 160584
Sacramento,
CA 95816



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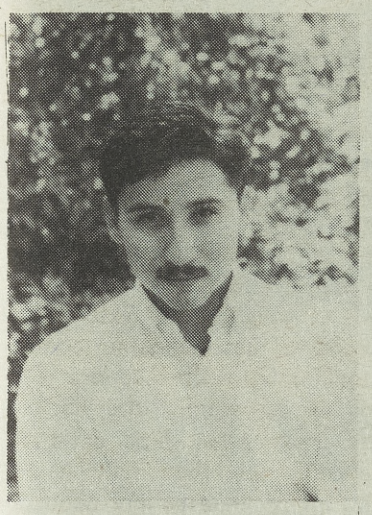


by **Dan Palomino**

Greetings and salutations as we settle into the new year -- finally learning to write '1991' on our correspondence. Of course, there are those of us who still enjoy living in the past. Learning to break out and join the 'now crowd' is the invisibly popular and (oh, God -- will she ever get there?) aspiring writer **Betty Lou,** who, being the good friend she is, has supplied me with many tidbits about all of you. Apparently unable to get over the stress of the holidays (or of her debt to the IRS), she has decided to simply replace it with something else and is currently enrolled in a creative anxiety seminar. Personally, I think she'd be better off with a class titled, "Enjoying Your Guilt for Fun and Profit."

Looking good is on everyone's agenda these days, and I mean everyone, as I even say **Stephen Crow** making a futile guest appearance at Valentis the other day. I hear he's moving in **Chuk & Jeff's** place on D Street. Rumor has it he's been fantasizing about building a subterranean chamber/dungeon so he can physically descend into the depths of depravity. I look forward to an undoubtedly faaaab housewarming party, **Steve.**

GLAAD is still struggling to begin a local chapter in Sacramento, despite - the last remaining board member being sent off to the Persian Gulf. If you are interested in this worthy organization, do attend their meeting at the **Lambda Center,** Feb. 28 at 6:30.

Birthday wishes to love birds **Esther & Pat.** A whole year under their belts and they're still going strong! B-day greetings to **Lotus Fong, Diana Dunn** and **Ken Topper!**

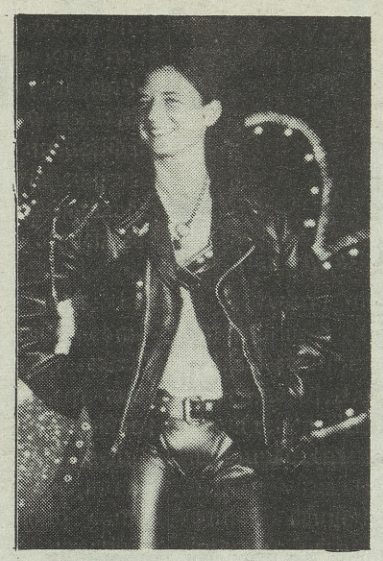
Lotus Fong, birthday girl.

Also, congrats to **Vince Zambrana** who, clawing at the chance for middle-class respectability, just purchased a house in South Sacramento, also known as Heliotrope Hills. It has come to my attention that there are a few so-called "lavender sorts" who don't know what the color Heliotrope is. BEWARE, I say! These are the types who will embarrass you at your next tea party by dunking their cucumber sandwich in the pot of tea.

Embarrassment was "the" operative word for poor, unfortunate **Shannon** who tends bar at Faces. Friends say he was apparently attacked on the neck by a set of lips while innocently walking home in the dark after helping his mother with her laundry (at 3 a.m.?). Gee, I wish I had friends that would stick up for me like that. Anyway, before, he had to work an event at **Faces,** a pair of lipstick lesbians miraculously appeared out of the woodwork, complete with make-up kit (in his case, Patch Kit in a Drum and trowel were needed), and he worked the crowd happily ever after. Speaking of true artists, a big round of applause to artist **Dale Zeitler** who is the resident cartoonist at the latest ISSUE and who is responsible for those popular poses of moi in earlier issues. My photo just had to appear on the January Issue to silence those wags who were spreading the rumor that the column was actually being written by a cartoon or "toon." Yes, the rival columnist and self-proclaimed Dancer, **Hedda Hop-a-long (AKA John Batchelor)** is part of that group. Remember he was vicious enough to claim that my late bow-wow, Rupert, was my ghostwriter. Do you notice there is a slight tint to his column in MGW? I think it may be suffering from a case of yellow journalism. Anyway, thank you, **Dale,** and I hope all of you enjoy his witty cartoon strip as we do. Someone who enjoyed making a caricature of Santa Claus was **Rob Thorbin** who hosted a Thank You Party to the community on February 18. Dressed in a white tuxedo and accoutrements (except for a scarlet short and Santa cap), he certainly showed the capacity crowd at Joseph's that Santa's got style.

Another event at Joseph's recently the **Ms. Leather Sacramento** contest was packed as wild-eyed lesbians gawked at **Jana Courson** the new **Ms. Leather.** Rumor has it **"Daddy"** has to approve her every move so you women be careful, look but don't touch.

Breaking away from my demanding role as social arbiter, I dashed away for the weekend in San Francisco, where I immediately ran into Sacramentans. Mens Chorus cutie **Russ Marsh** and I situated ourselves at the corner of 18th and Castro and enjoyed the spectacle of primped and coiffed dandies who thought the street walks were modeling runways. And who came up those runways but River City rascals **Brad and Bob.** A great time was had by all and we unanimously agreed that the chain-link fence motif at the Detour Bar was simply to die for!



Jana Courson, Ms. Leather

Speaking of travels, **Brad and Dan,** two local hunks are soaking up the sun in Key West while **Rae Ann Jones** enjoys the traditional Mardi Gras celebration in New Orleans.

Valentine wishes to the irrepressible **Gina Roselle.** She wants a wedding ring (she'll settle for an engagement ring), but what she needs is for the phone to ring! Good luck, and happy hunting.

Sherri Jordan is hard at work preparing her shop **The Moment of Touch** for its grand opening in March. In addition to massage oils and aromatherapy products we hear the shop will carry goodies for lovers formerly available only in S.F.

Continued on page 20

Sherri Jordan and Shannon Morgan are trying to have the Moment of Touch open by mid-March. Sacramento's ready!

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Lambda's Cloud Nine an Inspired Performance

by **Winston Ingman**

For those not fortunate enough to have had the pleasure of experiencing one of the Lambda Players fine productions, make "Cloud Nine" your first exposure for this remarkable professional theater event.

This gay and lesbian theater group, which is now in its second season, deserves support not just because of its focus on the gay community, but because of its high production standards, original choice of material and surprisingly professional company of players.

"Cloud Nine" is an incisive British parody which lampoons sexism, homophobia and racism with consummate skill and finesse. The use of cross-gender and race-role confusion effectively underlines the self-defeating attitudes we internalize depending on our cultural setting.

The play is performed in two acts, the first set in Victorian Africa. The use of colonialism as a metaphor for sexual oppression and stereotyping accomplishes what all good theater should: awakening and educating audiences while maintaining a sense of humor.

The second act is set in London, 1979. The playbill announces that, for the characters, it is only 25 years later. I found the juxtaposition of colonial Africa with contemporary London a confusing plot device. The concept of comparing "autres temps, autres mores" is a good one, but requires considerable skill, particularly when moving between two dramatically different cultures.

Kudos to director Delphi Michaels for impressive staging and to the entire cast for an inspired performance.

"Cloud Nine" runs through March 3rd - Every Saturday and Sunday. For more information call the Lambda Center at 442-0185.

Cast members of "Cloud Nine" during dress rehearsal.

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Jodie Foster and Kasi Lemmons in "The Silence of the Lambs"

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Alice is Wonderful

by **Chris Gerald**

It is rare to see a Woody Allen comedy without Woody Allen. But don't think "Alice" is the exception. He's there all right; only this time, the Allen character is Alice, deftly played by Mia Farrow, who's got Allen down to a tee.

Alice is coming to the middle of her life. Married sixteen years to a cold, distant husband (William Hurt, who is perfect for the role), she is no longer content with the shopping, manicures and credit cards that define her life. She is bored and unfulfilled until she meets a studio musician (Joe Mantegna), who relies on his charm to seduce.

Her needs exert themselves in the form of back pain. Hearing the name of an acupuncturist named Dr. Yang over and over, she decides to visit the mysterious doctor.

Dr. Yang (Keye Luke in a touching, final performance) barks orders at her and provides Alice with magical herbs to guide her on the road to self-realization. Allen cleverly mixes fantasy with his social satire on wealth, infidelity and guilt, finding out what's really important in life. Even his seemingly pat finale shows how easy it is to go overboard in a quest for a good, purposeful life. And with a quality cast that includes Alec Baldwin, Blythe Danner, Judy Davis, Judith Ivey, Bernadette Peters, Cybill Shepherd and Gwen Verdon, how can you go wrong? ⚡⚡⚡⚡

⚡⚡⚡⚡⚡ Must see
⚡⚡⚡⚡ Excellent
⚡⚡⚡ Good
⚡⚡ O.K.
⚡ Poor

Silence of the Lambs

Jody Foster.

The struggle between good and evil is as old as life itself. But in a strange twist, good must depend on evil to get inside the mind of a brutal serial killer.

Special FBI agent Jack Crawford (Scott Glenn) knows there is a link between the macabre soul who mutilates his victims by skinning them, and the enigmatic Dr. Hannibal "the Cannibal" Lecter (Anthony Hopkins), who reads "Bon Apetit" before consuming parts of his victims. So he sends in the bait, a young, earnest FBI trainee named Clarice Starling (Jodie Foster), who, with her innate vulnerabilities and passion, is just enough to intrigue the super-intelligent doctor who feeds on her rural accent and private torments.

"The Silence of the Lambs" is as true a thriller as has been done in recent years. The film is definitely not for everyone. However, director Jonathan Demme has been able to create visually stunning scenes of even the most graphic situation.

Hopkins turns in a really frightening portrait of the personification of pure evil. He is capable of turning on the charm one minute and turning into a calculating, controlled killer the next. It's got "Oscar" written all over it.

It's too bad Oscar doesn't usually notice the type of quiet performance turned in by Foster. Foster is one of the few actresses today who can use economy in showing the complexities of a character. Clarice is never a victim. Shrewd and more than a little gutsy, Foster presents a true female hero. It's about time. ⚡⚡⚡⚡

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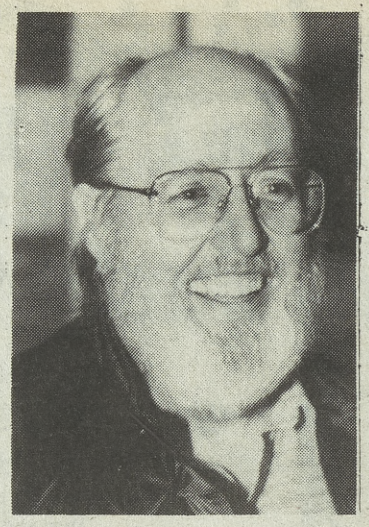
RUMOR

continued from page 17

For those hunting for inner happiness or simply to learn ways to communicate effectively and lovingly, run, don't walk! to the next **Experience.** The **Experience** itself is a powerful seminar to assist ourselves in grasping new tools to understand our relationships, to identify and change what we deem necessary, and to accept basic truths about ourselves so we can love ourselves and others without a lot of the excess baggage placed upon us by parents, significant others, etc. If you feel you could use empowerment in these areas, call 481-0151, and reserve April 19-21 for this event.



Jerry Sloan.

A very loving and contributing woman, **Lynn Strawbridge,** who is active in **MCC** and veterans' rights in Sacramento, has been struggling with her health recently. Best wishes, **Lynn,** on a speedy recovery!

Our hats off to dance maniac **Richard Hernandez,** who was appointed to the Board of Directors of **CARES.** Being part of the Hyatt Regency management, Richard provided the "Hyatt Touch" for my sister Marta during her recent stay. Thanks, Rich, and good luck!

Speaking of Boards, what's this I hear of **Trisha Harper** abruptly removed as Lambda Center Director? I hope that **Rev. Jerry Sloan,** who's done so much for the Sacramento community, isn't planning on installing a revolving door to that office. I hope a competent person is quickly chosen and just as quickly everyone else get out of the way 'cause important work needs to be done!

Til next month, love, **Danny.**

BRUTALITY

continued from page 3

one officer and that a group of about 10 deputies taunted the activists, calling them "faggots" and "homos" while they were being booked at the county jail.

Jonathan Katz, another Queer Nation member, said sheriff's officers threatened the five with additional charges of lewd and lascivious conduct if more than one of the group used the public restrooms at the jail at the same time.

Katz said the five had not yet filed a formal complaint with the Sacramento County Sheriff's Dept. because they were still waiting for the official forms to arrive.

But openly gay Supe. Harry Harry Britt at the news conference said he had personally lodged a complaint with Sacramento Mayor Anne Rudin. "It is our responsibility to see that our citizens who were mistreated receive justice," Britt said.

Britt was joined by newly elected lesbian Supes. Roberta Achtenberg and Carol Migden and Supe. Bill Maher.

The five demonstrated during part of Wilson's inaugural speech for a few minutes and were charged with disrupting a public event and obstructing justice. They are scheduled to appear for a preliminary hearing in Sacramento on Jan. 24.

Sacramento County Sheriff's Dept. spokesman, Ed Close, said the five had been offered "cite and release" misdemeanor tickets but declined. As a result, Close said, they were arrested.

"They came to the jail with confrontational attitudes in an obvious attempt to elicit a confrontation with our deputies," Close said.

He also said that even though the group had not yet formally filed a complaint, the department's internal affairs division was already investigating the incident.

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Gay Afro-Americans Influence Dance

America's most critical establishment has yet to acknowledge the contributions made by lesbian and gay African-Americans. Yet black (and often white) society continues to adopt cultural and social patterns from the black gay subculture.

In terms of language, phrases that were once used exclusively by gay Afro-Americans have crept into society at large.

Singers such as Pebbles and Gladys Knight, both preaching about unrequited love to their "girlfriend" and college rivals, toss around "Miss Thing" in Spike Lee's film "School Daze." Madonna brought "Vogueing," a dance form that was once exclusive to the black gay nightclubs of Chicago, New York and Detroit, to the whitebread masses, and she received an American Music Award for it (her only award this year). What also continued to emerge from the underground is the dance music of black gay America. More energetic and polyrhythmic than the sensibilities of "straight" African-Americans, and simply more African than the sensibilities of white gays, the musical sensibility of today's "house" music -- like that of disco and club music before it -- has spread beyond the black gay subculture to influence broader musical tastes.

What exactly is house music? Like its predecesors, disco and club, house is a scene as well as a music, black as well as gay. But as house music goes pop. so slams the closet door that keeps the facts about its roots from public view. House, disco and club are not the only black music forms that gays have been involved in producing, nor is everyone involved in this music gay. Still, the sound, the beat, and the rhythm have risen from the dancing sensibilities of urban gay African-Americans.

The music, in turn, has provided one of the underpinnings of the black gay subculture. Although political and cultural organizations have formed in recent years, membership in these groups remain small and represent a tiny minority of the black gay population. Lesbian and gay Afro-Americans still attend black churches, join black fraternities and sororities, and belong to the NAACP. Gay black dance clubs, like New York's Paradise Garage and Chicago's Warehouse (the birthplace of house music), have staked out a social space where black gay men don't have to deal with the racist door policies at predominantly white gay clubs, or the homophobia of black straight clubs. Over the last 20 years, the soundtrack to this dancing revolution has been provided by disco, club, and now - house music.

You have to go to the clubs and see how people react when they hear it. People jus' get happy and screamin'." When house really jacks, it is about the most intense dance music around. Wallflowers beware: You have to "move" to understand the power of house.

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that GALLERY!

Discover Your Local Art Galleries

by D. Oldham

This month, try something that is free, fun and educational: go "gallery hopping"! Spend a day discovering Sacramento's art galleries. The exhibitions change every month, so there is always something new.

If you are uncomfortable walking into a gallery for the first time, take a friend to the opening receptions, usually attended by the currently exhibiting artist.

I particularly like this month's exhibition of Howard Finster's paintings at the Michael Himovitz Gallery. In 1976, Finster, a baptist preacher from Georgia, claims God told him to increase his congregation through art. So he began to paint. Since then, he has shown more times than any living artist. His credits include a Grammy for the 1985 Talking Heads album cover, "Little Creatures." His works are included in many collections, including the Smithsonian's -- and even former president Ronald Reagan's.

The show at the Michael Himovitz Gallery includes some of Finster's trademark angels, as well as celebrity portraits of Hank Williams, Martha Washington, and "Elvis at age 3 years."

Plan on spending a lot of time with Finster's works. The elaborate writing on each piece deserves to be read. "The Devil's Vice" has some great prose: "I am 70 years old and I've never been drunk - have you?" Finster is considered the best "untrained" or "folk" artist of this century, and this exhibition is a good sample of his work. If you enjoy this exhibition of Finster's work, there is more of his work at the Crocker Art Museum; so check the gallery listings and get out there and gawk!

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Finster's portrait of Hank Williams at the Himovitz Gallery.

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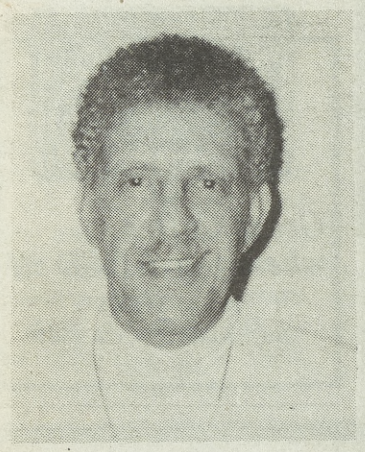
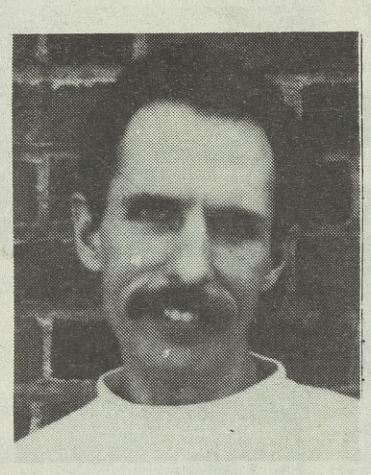
Have you ever been in love?

by **Tom Romanotto**

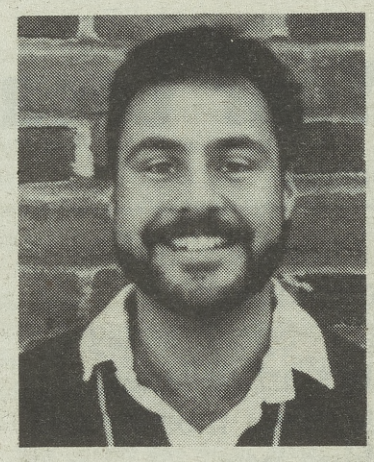


Peter Grande:
"I have been in love and loved someone for 29 years. It was the most wonderful experience of my life. Ron taught me love, honesty, and happiness." (Ron passed away in July 1990.)

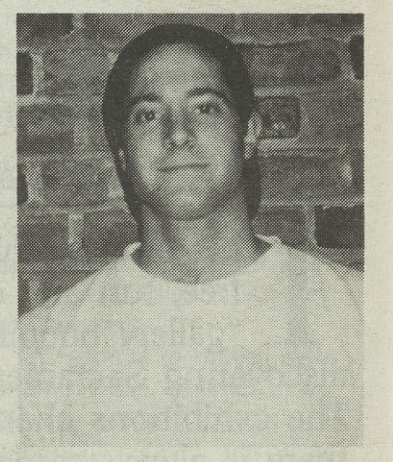


Beau Britton:
"No! But I'm definitely looking! Is this like a singles ad? Can I put my phone number here?

Lisa Kenton:
"Yes, I'm in love right now. I've learned the difference between love and lust. What I've learned about love is that it feels safe, and it also brings out all of my character defects. So sometimes it's painful, but there is also a lot of joy and the good feelings feel great!



Brian Eiland:
"I don't really believe in falling in love; I thought I was in love several times, but it was infatuation; I have only really loved one person. That was big growth experience for me."



Kevin Hopkins:
"Yes, I've been in love twice. They were both pretty painful experiences. I would like to love someone again, but I want it to be more equal and relaxed. I know I'm young and I'm still learning about life, but I plan to give love another chance!"

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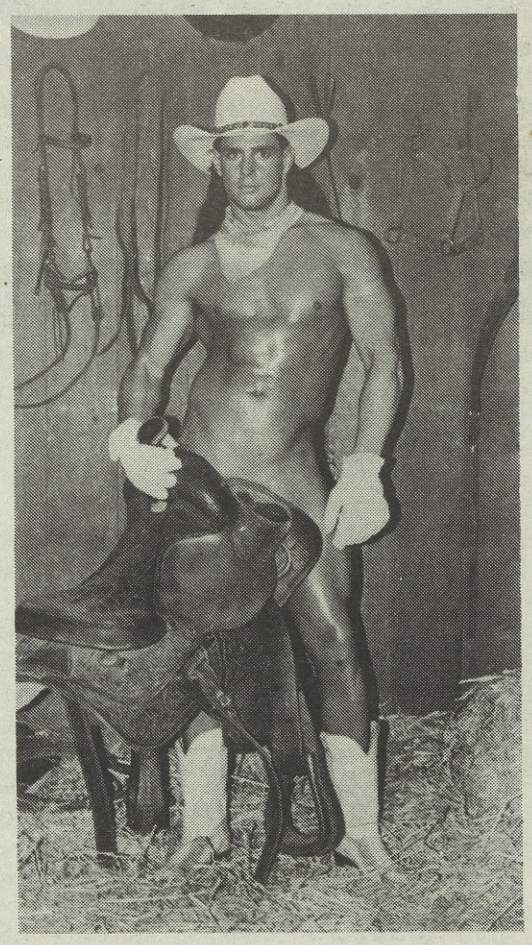

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The New Ms. Leather Wins "Unanimously"

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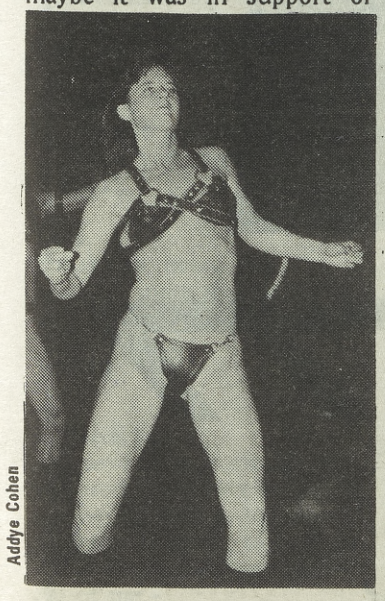
Mr. Sacramento Leather 1991, Randy Gray stands with the newly sashed Ms. Leather Sacramento, Jana Courson.

by **Anita Whippen**

Jana Courson is the new Ms. Leather Sacramento. She was the only candidate at the "contest" held on February 9, but the standing room only crowd didn't seem to care since the evening rolled right along with entertainment and fantasies.

The beginning of the program was highly unusual for a leather event - the National Anthem was played and the majority of those in attendance stood in support of the war in the Persian Gulf, or maybe it was in support of people with uniform fetishes.



Addye Cohen

Jana during her fantasy.

The judges for the contest were Ty Smith Johnson, President of the South Bay Leather and Uniform Group, Ruth Marks, Ms. National Leather Association 1990, John Howe, Mr. South Bay Leather, Mr. Phillip Waggoner, Mr. Cheeks and Chaps 1989/90, and Jo Tierney, Ms. Leather Sacramento, 1988/89. These prestigious judges didn't have much to do since Ms. Courson was the only contestant, so they implemented a minimum score of 65 points needed to win the title.

Mistress of Ceremonies Scooter Jenkins, Ms. Leather San Francisco 1987, asked Jana to answer the question "What does the s/m, leather, and fetish lifestyle mean to you and how would you describe safe, sane and consensual?" What a question! Jana responded by including the crowd into her most intimate relationship, the one with her "Daddy." "My Daddy is my lover" she said, "she insists I call her daddy because I am in training." Being in training related to the s/m, leather, fetish lifestyle question and in response to the safe, sane and consensual question she said, "It means keeping a clear mind." I think that Jana's strong point is not in her articulate style but in having a seriously hot body.

During the fantasy presentation Jana was accompanied by Bill Gooch in a hot wax and bi-scene that ended with Kim Wallace dominating the two and leading them off the stage. For this she got 263 points.

Amanda Foxx, Ms. Gay California was the entertainer for the event and even though she is a female impersonator, the mostly female crowd appreciated her talents. Ms. Foxx did several numbers and changed hair color and appearance with each song. She had great delivery, presentation and style. Hurrah for Ms. Foxx! Too bad she's not a lesbian.

Mr. Leather Sacramento, Randy Gray was joined by Calvin for an all male fantasy presentation I like to call "Dress-up Barbie fantasy." Gray, in all leather, captured Calvin, in cowboy garb, and repeatedly whipped him as he changed his clothes. After he was branded and completely dressed in leather, Gray led him off the stage by a dog's leash. Calvin's desire to be hurt has made him a popular choice as "masochistic model" for local leather events.

Ruth Marks, Ms. National Leather Association got up during a lull in the evenings proceedings and expressed her disgust at the National Anthem being sung by "a room full of gay men and women." She said "in nearly half of the States in this country you could be sent to jail for having sex!", she said, "billions of dollars are being spend on a war that is solely for oil. . . while gay men are dying from AIDS and just a fraction of that money could be spent to keep them from dying." The comments from Ms. National Leather were greeted by the Sacramento crowd with a quiet statement of disagreement.

As the evening came to a close, Jana Courson was given the sash of 1991 Ms. Leather Sacramento. It is clear that Ms. Leather 1991 will be leading the Sacramento Leather Association into a year of unlimited possiblities.

Addye Cohen

Scooter and Randy were the MC's of the evening.

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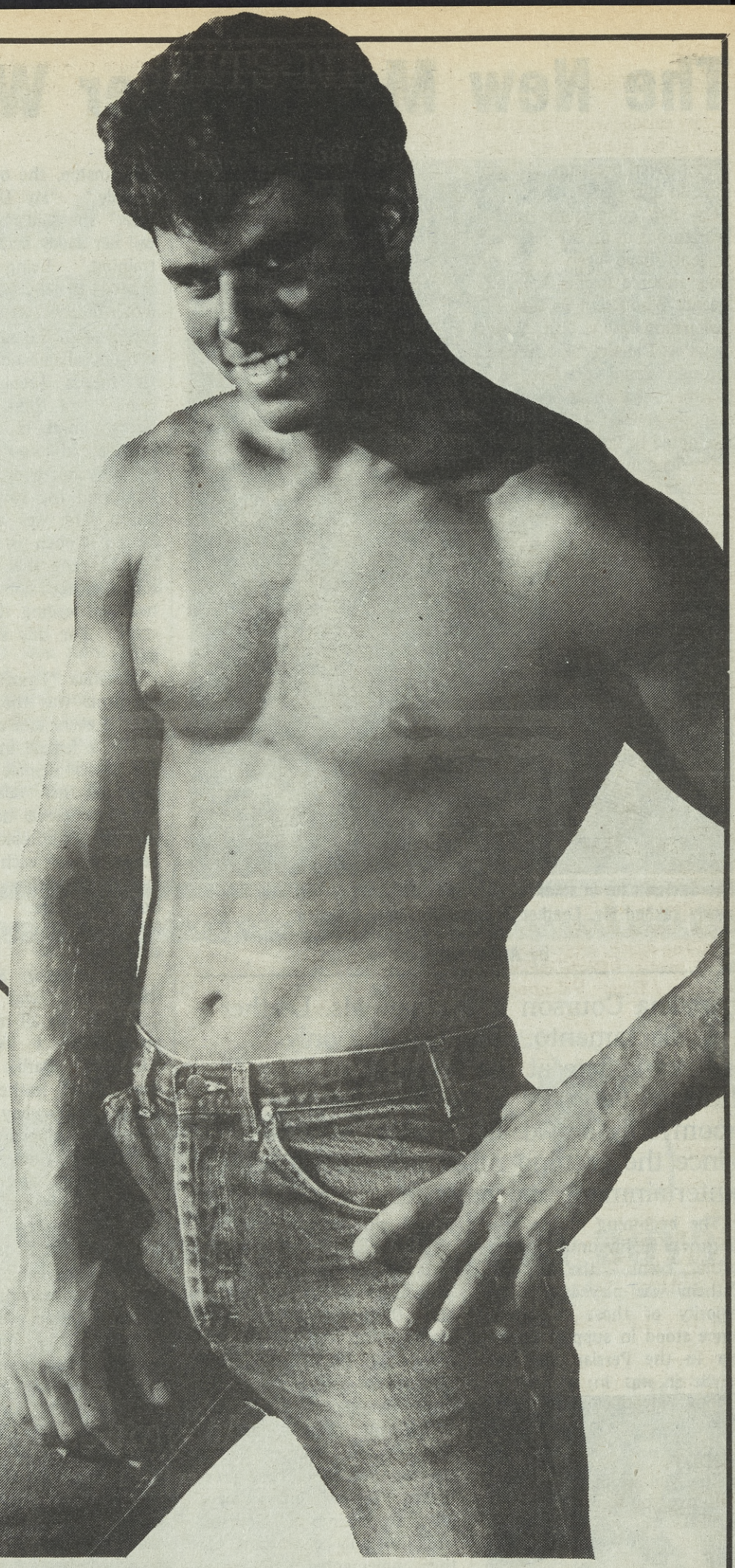

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LOVE

continued from page 5

tawdry episode when I agreed to strip at his friend's drag queen dinner. Even press-on nails can leave an ugly scar."

My own concessions to the heartthrobs of my life (past and present) have been diverse. I have endured former beloved's Friends Who Seem To Have No Redeeming Value, But Always Arrive At Dinnertime. I suffered through drum practice in a basement that made any sound magnify at least 1,009 times. I attempted to find treatment for a girlfriend in crisis whose main pastimes were asking for money, sobbing uncontrollably and talking to Elvis at 3 a.m. I mean, I've been the picture of tolerance, especially when considering that living with me is easy, since I am TOTALLY without flaws.

If karma was money, I would be rich for the latest "Anything For You, Babe" escapade. I willingly flew 3,000 miles to Florida

> I went to meet the "Waltons From Hell"

to attend the wedding of the wife's little sister, to meet for the first time the family I colloquially call: The Waltons From Hell.

A huge, ever-expanding clan of renegade Catholics (low on faith, high on guilt) who, at this happy heterosexual occasion, chose to ignore many of intra-family squabbles, betrayals, and even those nagging breach of contract lawsuits.

Suzie and I, as the Homosexuals From California, provided a pleasant diversion. She was eagerly welcomed back into the bosom of her family. And I, dressed in tight silk and several pounds of hair spray, took the opportunity to bond with my six new brothers-in-law (the BILs) and overhear a lively debate about my cup size.

The BILs seemed to approve of me and commiserated about the curious challenges of becoming part of the Jones clan, where acting slightly deranged is considered normal and psychiatric wards are regarded as a viable alternative to Club Med. They assured me that I would fit right in, and that mingling with the family was easier than a lot of things...like dodging sniper fire. I felt relieved. Until they made me play golf.

There are only six things to do in Florida: (1) Play golf. (2) Talk about golf. (3) Go to the beach. (4) Competitively compare symptoms with the other old people at the beach. (5) Spend about $4,300 at Disney World. (6) See how slowly you can possibly drive in the fast lane.

Needless to say, to keep my babe happy, I played golf, after a 20 year absence from the "sport." (I was forced to play golf as an embryo by my upwardly mobile parents.) I amused myself by doing wheelies in the golfcart, retrieving other people's balls while they weren't looking, and yelling, "Look out, he's got a knife!" at unsuspecting retirees. Club management suggested I take up another, safer sport--like skeet shooting--but we survived the ordeal.

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You, too can survive, if not relish, most of your significant other's offbeat requests. If you must, use the Ridiculous Request Rating System. How happy will granting the request make your love puppy? How unhappy will you be if you DO grant the request? Negotiate, bargain, (disrobing helps; no hidden agendas) and settle out of court. It's Valentine's Day, so be indulgent, be loving and let your significant other have his/her own way. You may have your own set of favors to ask. Remember, what goes around comes around!

Valentine Love Notes

CAROL
Labels don't mean much / important is the touch of hands, hearts in love / we start The dance, erotic / the thrill, exotic. / Come dance and play / Happy Valentines Day.
JANICE

ARTURO,
I'm still after you like the way I was when I met you! You slut!
ROBBY

DAN
Roses are Red, Violets are Blue, Happiness is... Being in love with you. Be mine
MICHAEL

MY LITTLE STUD MUFFIN,
I love you. You are the wind beneath my wings. Happy Valentines Day.
ME

TEDDY,
To me you are the world. I will love you forever.
KATHY

SUE,
Thanks for being you! I love you more than you will ever know.
Yours forever,
VICKI

POOKEY,
Our love is very special and my promise of love to you is to give, to accept, to respect, to share, to grow, to love you today tommarrow and forever. All of me -
CHERIE

JOE
Roses are red, violets are blue it's been almost a year and I still like you. Imagine that!! Be mine-literally and figuratively! Happy Valentines Day. Love Ya,
DALE

FRACK,
Be my Valentine,
Happy almost 4 years - I love you Love,
FRICK

DARYL,
The best thing that ever happened in my life. I love you.
CRAIG

CHUCK!
E I U forever. Happy Anniversary again.
MICHAEL

JEANINE,
Thanks for the best 3 years of my life so far. I love you, babe.
LILY

HAPPY 88TH BIRTHDAY MOM, 2/14/03,
Love you very much,
BERNIE

PAMMY,
You are the love of my life. I love you whole heartedly. Be mine,
MICHE

LOUIS
You say it in more than words. I love you.
JOHN

LARGE MARGE, DUCHESS X,
Happy Valentines Day. From...
GRAND DUKE X, PATRICK

BEEFMAN,
Quit lifting those weights and come give me a lift Honey! Thanks for 15 great Valentine's Days together.
MARK

RICK & MIKE,
A valentine note to our brothers, we are proud of you and love you both!
Love,
PATRICK & BOBBY

SUZIE,
For all your languid "come jump me" looks at inappropriate times, your bawdy laughter, your helicopter dance style, and most of all, your unwavering emotional support through the cold dark winter..I thank you. You're the first woman who's dared to "tame me" Let's just say the last 9 months were merely foreplay. It'll get even better. I cherish you. Forever your babe,
STACE

DEAREST JOHN,
Happy Valentines Day and 2 month anniversary! My life is richer with you as a part of it. I love you,
LOU

JOANN,
I've been waiting so long for someone exactly like you. Happy Valentines Day. Love
CATHY ANN

VICKI,
I love you, always You make me content and happy! Cheers to our family and home! Forever yours,
SUZ

DEAREST S.R.E.,
Thank you for your positive and loving place in my life. I look forward to spending endless seasons with you. Love you,
JUDY

POKEY POO,
Happy Valentines Day Sweetheart! Thank you for being the best wife a woman could ever want.
SMOKEY

DANA,
I've got a lotta love to give. One day at a time.
LOVE, BUBBY

DEBBIE,
Happy Valentines Day. Will you please come back? Miss you - And the dancing.
JILL

CRAIG,
Love you more and more with each day.
DARYL

STACY
Even before I met you, you made me laugh and smile. Your love fills my days with happiness, my nights with joy and my heart with love for you. But most of all I love your buns. Be mine, always.
SUZIE

SUE WARDCLERK
You mean the whole world to me. I Love You.
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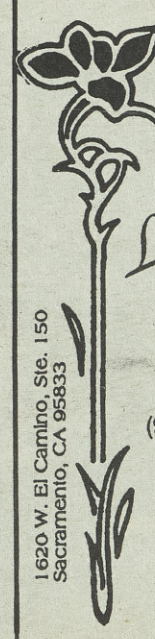

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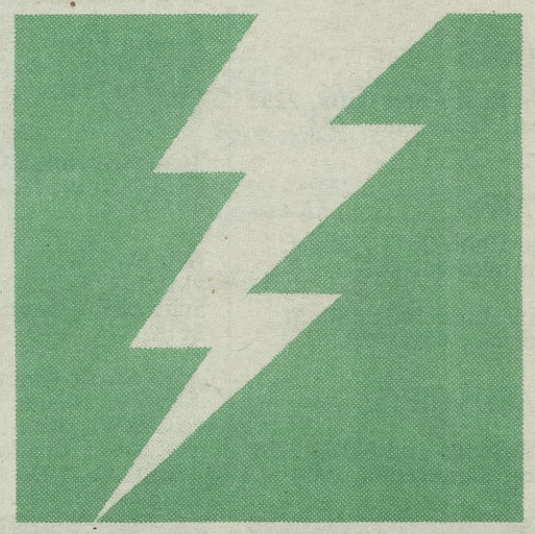

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